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THURSDAY APRIL 22 1999

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**Nicholas** Cage and a life of depravity

Arts. page 38

26 pages of appointments



Jacqueline **Bisset:** 

Never too old to be a star page 39



Christopher Martin-Jenkins

The voice of cricket joins The Times page 56







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COTES and cut

Hitler's birthday gift: a high school massacre

Dyfan Klebofd

MOMENTS before mayhern descended on Columbine High School. Brooks Brown bumped into a friend on a suicide mission. "I said, 'Hey, man'." Mr Brown remembered, "and he said, Brooks, I

Mr Brown was one of the lucky ones. Eric Harns, the 18-year-old he knew as "just an odd, nice guy", had announced his own death on the Internet and transformed himself into a walking arsenal. He was about to unleash four hours of terror on

like you. Get out of here. Go home'."

a proud and flourishing school, the latest victim of an epidemic of teenage gun violence that has left America in shock. It was soon after Ham on Tuesday. Bristling with

guns and with explosives strapped to their bodies, Harris and his accomplice, Dylan Klebold, also 18, haunched their attack on the school that called them "outcasts", with a bomb. It detonated on a broad boulevard that forms the

west side of Columbine's large, landscaped grounds. From there the two teenagers in their trademark black trenchooats strode across a car park used by senior pupils, and started shooting. Frank Wade, 18, saw one of their early victims a girl shot in the leg near the top of a short flight of steps. As she lay wounded, a young man came to her rescue and paid dearly for it. "The trench coat

An anguished America grappled yesterday with the worst schoolyard massacre in its history, which left 15 dead and 16 injured. Two high school outcasts, members of the Trenchcoat Mafia gang, obsessed with

PLUS save £££'s on books - Voucher page 42

Shock Rock and Nazi paraphernalia, chose the 110th anniversary of Hitler's birth to slaughter their most popular classmates with bullets and bombs. Giles Whittell (left) reports from Littleton, Colorado.

walked up and shot the boy point blank in the back," Mr Wade said later, when Columbine had become a war zone of stretchers, SWAT teams and panie-stricken parents.

At 11.30 about 400 pupils were eating an early lunch in the school's ground-floor cafeteria. Most would soon flee for their lives, but initially they thought the popping sounds and smoke from out-

Seconds later, Harris and Klebold entered, firing sometimes at random and sometimes with grim selection criteria: Repeatedly, they warned that "jocks" - the school's popular athletes -- were their intended victims.

From the start there was evidence of detailed planning. At least three more home-made bombs exploded within minutes of each other in the car

park, the cafeteria and an adjoining snack room, As fellow pupils and at least one teacher stag-gered from gunshot wounds and bullets ricocheted off steel lockers, survivors ran for cover wherever it could be found. Some spent the next three hours barricaded inside classrooms; others in a tiny janitor's storeroom. Television cameras zoomed in on a desperate note scrawled onto paper and pressed to an upstairs window: "Help. I'm bleeding to death."

upstairs to the library that police would later call the "kill zone" — 45 pupils had scrambled under desks, but they found no shelter.

From the caleteria the gunmen walked calmly

There was a girl crouched under a desk, and one of the gunmen came over and said, 'Peekaboo' and shot her in the neck," said Byron Kirkland, 15, who escaped uninjured. Bree Pasquale was in the li-

brary too. Her horrifying account was later broadcast repeatedly - the most powerful commentary in the media storm that has since engulfed Littleton. "Everyone around me got shot, and I begged him for ten minutes not to shoot me," Ms Bree, Io, sobbed to a television reporter, who was also cry-

Two pupils next to her were shot at point black range. "He shot one student because she had a hat on and a black student because he was black, saying it was all because people were mean to him last

Several pupils, after running to safety with their arms aloft, on police orders lest the gunmen try to escape with them, said the killers acted with quiet glee, giggling even as they carried out their execu-tions. One student who listened from behind a

locked door said: "We heard someone scream 'Please don't kill me, please don't kill me'. Then we heard a voice say That's too bad,' and then we heard a shot."

After hours of confusion, Jefferson County Sheriff John Stone said 12 bodies had been counted in the library, one immediately outside it and two elsewhere on the school grounds.

At least 19 pupils were taken to area hospitals by ambulance or helicopter. Several remained in criocal condition yesterday, including an unnamed 17year-old boy with five gunshot wounds to the chest. A girl with nine shrapnel wounds from a bomb

was said to be improving.

Police were at the school within five minutes of the first shots, but were hampered from the start by fear of bombs and booby traps; up to 15 explosions were reported during the afternoon and 30 more devices had been found by bomb squads by yesterday morning, three of them planted in nearby cars

and one at Mr Harris's home. SWAT teams arriving two hours into the ordeal Continued on page 2, column 5

School shootings, pages 2-5 Magnus Linklater, page 24 Leading article, page 25

# West shifts towards Kosovo land force

By Michael Evans and Philip Webster

0800 316 231 INCREASING expectations that Nato ground troops could be sent into Kosovo before President Milosevic signs a beace deal were heightened by Tony Blair and the US Govern-

ment last night. The Prime Minister flew into Washington for talks with President Clinton, having indi-cated to the Commons before he left that a land force may be used against a "degraded"

Serbian war machine. The United States said last night that it would back any decision by Nato to revise the existing feasibility study for deploying ground troops in Kosovo if top alliance officials called for such a reassessment. "If the military command and the Nato Secretary-General be-

John Laughland. Leading article.

lieve that it's prudent to update the assessment based on the changing circumstances on the ground, we would support that." Joe Lockhart. White House spokesman, said. Although Mr Blair said that

the most effective way of halting "ethnic cleansing" was to press on with airstrikes, the Prime Minister left open the option for ground forces to go in at some stage when he repeated that Mr Milosevic did not have a veto on Nato action. However, Mr Blair said that any invasion against "undegraded" Serb forces posed formidable difficulties.

George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, also appeared to signal that preparations were being made for an invasion which Nato hoped would be only lightly opposed. "The position on a forced invasion.



a wholesale, opposed invasion remains as it was at the beginning, but I use my words this morning with some care," he told a press briefing. "We are determined that an international force will deploy in Kosovo once the airstrikes have done their job, so the people can return to their homes." Mr Blair and Mr Clinton met to prepare for the Nato

summit which begins tomorrow. But before he left Mr Blair also appealed to the Russian people for support for Nato's action against Mr Milosevic. He told Russian television that Nato had no quarrel with the Serbian people, still less with the Russian people. Both Russia and Serbia stood out against fascism during the Second World War.

He said the bombing had nothing to do with a Nato struggle agaisnt Russia. It was a basic humanitarian cause. What is happening in Kosovo today — people being herded onto trains, driven from their homes at gunpoint, women raped, children without fathers - the last time this hap-pened, it happened in Nazi Germany."

In Paris, President Chirac, speaking last night on the eve of leaving for the Washington summit, called for the Nato airstrikes against Yugoslavia to intensify in order to break Bel-grade's defiance. "Massacres, rape, pillaging, torching of vil-lages and an exodus of families who have been separated, that is the action of the Serb authorities and it must stop," he said in a radio and television address to the nation.

Downing Street said that the Washington summit would discuss ground troops. but there was no question of setting a timetable. The spokesman said that the summit would examine whether it was necessary to increase the proposed peace implementation force for Kosovo of 28,000 troops. The present strength of the force waiting in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is about 12,000: it would rise to 42,000 when the extra British armoured battle



The Queen kicking off her shoes before entering the women's quarters of a house in Korea

## The Queen puts her best (bare) foot forward

EVEN a monarch is expected worn indoors. Casually, withto respect local customs. The Queen, celebrating her 73rd birthday yesterday at a rural village in Korea, had to re-move her white court shoes before entering a traditional (Alan Hamilton writes).

She had been watching the preparation of pickled cab-bage outside a home in the preserved heritage village of Hay-hoe, 150 miles south of Seoul, when she was invited to inspect the women's quarters of the still-inhabited 18th century dwelling. In a brief moment of confusion, she had to be reminded that shoes are not

out even bending down, she kicked off her shoes, and her mainly female entourage immediately followed suit. After a brief encounter with the interior of the wooden house, she back into her shoes and continue her birthday programme.

The Queen's momentary scowl at being wrong-footed was an uncharacteristic moment during a birthday that she appeared to be thoroughly enjoying. The day was crowned with a standing ovation at a concert in Seoul that brought a tear to her eye and warm smile of gratitude.



#### INSIDE **Thatcherite** protest

Tory Shadow Cabinet members baulked at their leadership's orders to abandon a central tenet of Thatcherism - the search for private sector solutions to the health and education systems Politics, pages 14, 15

#### Hospital fight over boy's life

Relatives of a disabled boy and doctors were involved in a violent hospital fracas as the family tried to revive him against medical advice, a court was told ..... Page 11

TV & RADIO ..... WEATHER ... CROSSWORDS ....28,56 LETTERS ..... OBITUARIES. ANATOLE KALETSKY...24 CHESS & BRIDGE ...50 COURT'& SOCIAL ....26 BODY & MIND.....22 BUSINESS.....29-36

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CHRONOLOGY OF DEATH IN DENVER

begins with bomb thrown outside premises, and Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold wall

insida the school. 11.25: first shots heard outside the cafeteria as

the pair spray bullets randomly in corridors. 11\_30: as first police arrive tha pair start shooting in

11,35; bombs explode in

11.40: Harris and Klebold

12.20pm: students hiding

police and media on mobile

in classrooms call family

1.00: first SWAT team

arrives after police throw

cordon around school.

truilding for booby traps.

4.00: after 15 explosions

2.30: final survivors

car park, cateteria and

# High school killing spree leaves 15 dead

IN LITTLETON, COLORADO

AS DAYLIGHT came to Littleton yesterday the estimated death toll from the shooting there fell from 25 to 15, but 16 teenagers were still in hospitals throughout the Denver area, at least five of them in critical condition.

Twelve people died in the Co-lumbine High School library when Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold turned it into a charnel house on Tuesday morning, entering with handguns and shotguns and shooting several fellow-pupils at pointblank range. One body was found outside the library and two more elsewhere on the school grounds.

Apart from Harris and Klebold, the names of the dead were not immediately available. Their families had been informed by Tuesday night, however. One teacher was said to be among the victims.

Lists of the injured read like data from a military offensive. At Swedish Medical Center alone, the nearest hospital to the scene, three pupils were in

LINKS

http://204.98.20.35/ Columbine http://www.nesu.edu/cpsv/ Centre for the prevention of school

http://www.nra.org National Rifle Association http://www.mjcnet.com/auti-gun/orgs.htm Anti-gun organisations http://www.duablane.brave

heart.com/frameset.htm Remembering Dunblane http://www.fbl.gov FBI web site http://www.pevp.org/pevp/fire-arms/states.html United States

critical condition including Richard Casaldo. 17, who has five gunshot wounds to the chest, back, arm and abdomen. But the condition of 18-year-old Valerie Schnurr. who was originally reported to have been shot nine times, was downgraded to serious after doctors found that her wounds were from bomb shrapnel.

Yesterday's Rocky Mouniain News carried a single word for its front-page headline - Heartache - and nowhere was the anguish more

Lisa Kreutz, left, and Anne Hochholter: both are in hospital with gunshot wounds'

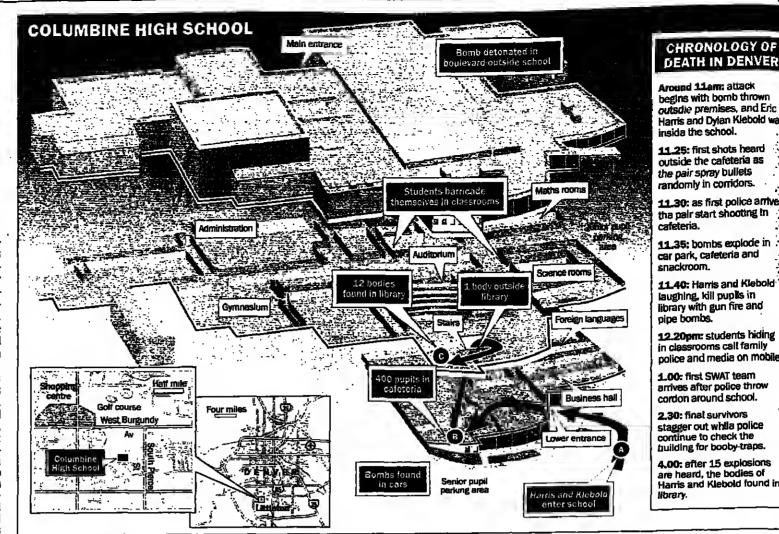
LAURA ASHLEY

Home Sale

acute than at Leawood Ele-mentary School, a few blocks from Columbine, where parents waited for news of their children. Some sobbed quietly. Others gathered in a hasti-ly-designated "prayer corner". One mother refused to leave the high school campus and ran through a police line in her socks to look for her son.

By 8pm, Michael Shoels had still not heard from his 18-year-old black son, Isiah. "It's not looking good," he said at the Leawood waiting area. hours after reports first emerged of a boy being shot be-cause he was black. "It's like a dream I'm trying to wake up from." Those most at risk from two armed teenagers were apparently known athletes and anyone wearing a baseball cap or tracksuit. As the killers eniered the library, one an-nounced: "All the jocks stand up. We are going to kill you."

Early reports that Harris and Klebold targeted ethnic minorities may have been exaggerated. One newspaper carried a sombre line-up of photographs of nine injury victims vesterday, but all were while.



# America watches its first interactive siege

was watched by millions of Americans as it unfolded live oo televisioo.

The sheer oumber of cable television chancels covering the event, and the prevalence of mohile telephooes among pupils, transformed the unolding horror into a fully interactive siege. At times, coverage of the event was too complete. With cameras in helicopters trained oo the school from every angle there were moments when the networks had to stop transmitting pictures live from the scene and explain to viewers why they were doing so.

The first problem was that some pictures were just too shocking. A camera would room io only for producers in the studio and viewers to reafise at the same moment that the object lying to the ground was a motionless TV coverage

horrifies a nation, reports

Damian Whitworth

body. Quickly, there would be a cutaway, to avoid showing a probably dead son or daughter to a worried parent watching at home. When a man covered in blood crashed awkwardly from a window the picture similarly reverted swiftly to the studio.

There were fears that the coverage could be endangering the rescue missioo. Police were told that every class-room in the school had a television and feared that the suspects could be watching their every move as they tried to proceed into the building.

Requests were made that oo pictures be shown that could ideotify exactly where the police were entering the huilding. Not all stations seemed to have got the message. There was also a fear

that if the culprits were watching TV they would learn where students were hidiog in the school. Some children, watching the oews thmselves as they cowered in classrooms and cupboards, phoned local stations which had blazooed their phooe oumbers across the screen,

and gave commentary live oo air of what was happening. Ooe boy, who gave his name as James, said he was hiding in a classroom and could hear the gunmen oext

The news anchor qoickly told him to get off the line and call the police. Another pupil rang to say that he had ust fled from a hail of bullets. He was panting and said he was still close to the building and feared the gunmen were near by. A desperate pre-senter urged him to move further away.

Another distraught student called and launched into a tirade about the ills of society. The presenter, clearly torn between telling the boy to shut op and keep safe and listening to this extraordinary speech, could only sit with her jaw gaping.

## Suburb where even leaves are recycled

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

NESTLED at the foot of the Rockies, the comfortable suburb brought to a standstill by the Trenchooat massacre was until Tuesday the acceptable face of American sprawl.

Thriving on new high-tech jobs, its 40,000 residents sup-

port no fewer than 17 shopping centres, and "give back" to their environment by recycling even fallen leaves. But, like the people of nearby Boulder on the death of JonBenet Ramsey, the child beauty queen, they have found something rotten behind their prosperous façade.

This couldn't have happened here" was a constant refrain by stunned survivors and officials yesterday. Little-ton's median household in-come of \$42,000 (£26,000) is 25 per cent higher than the national average, furnishing many high school seniors with rowing television footage showed --- mobile phones with

which to call for help. Few blacks or latinos live in Littleton. Its 93 per cent white

population deprive it of the fuel for ethnic flare-ups that plagued cities such as Los Angeles and even central Denver in the 1980s and early 1990s.

But as the debate over the causes of this latest killing spree ripples outward, the view that fortress-style, mainwhite suburbs create a sterile and potentially poisonous atmosphere for teenagers could well gain ground.

Just 15 miles southwest of Denver's skyscrapers, Little-ton was founded in 1890 but grew quickly after the Second World War with the arrival of aerospace and electronics firms. It is now a place of gently winding streets, manicured lawns, endless new detached houses - and 49 homeowner associations for their proud

Columbine High School is one of its core institutions. facilities including a large grounds, it was described in a

erible Giles Whitte . i porti 📆 - N

mart

Control of the second



A student hangs a sign oo a cross outside the Light of the World Roman Catholic church in Littleton yesterday

# gift: a massacre

combed the school room by room, freeing several dozen pupils from a choir practice

Many reported seeing Dave Sanders, a popular teacher and sports coach, trying to herd youngsters to safety de-spite bleeding heavily from a chest wound. His fate was still unclear as dawn broke yester-

As news of the horror inside the school spread, police established a crime scene half a mile across round its perimeter and parents were directed to a nearby elementary school where lists of survivors' names were pinned up as the lucky ones arrived in buses.
Others ran for safety into

houses in the tree-lined streets near the school, using strangers' telephones to call their families. Parents were asked to bring their children's dental records to identify bodies if

Some vomited at the "This is truly the sade thought of having to use them. I've done in my life."

At 4pm an emergency physician entered the library with police and found the gunmen among the dead. Both had apparently shot themselves in the head, fulfilling Harris's promise on a website that this day - the 110th anniversary of Hilter's birth - would be his

, The school was declared safe half an hour later, but bomb squads with remote control robots worked through the night scouring any hidden

Outside, counsellors urged survivors to talk. They did, to a growing army of television crews. "I've never seen anything like it in my life," Nick Foss, 18, told one reporter. "I saw one of my friends with his face shot off."

Churches threw open their doors to offer solace late into the night. In one of them, a Catholic priest addressing packed pews seemed loss for words. Eventually he said: "This is truly the saddes1 thing

# praises bravery

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON a juvenile justice Bill, but at this point have not yet focused

IN AN emotional address to an audience of White House volunteers. President Clinton paid tribute to the bravery of the school stuents and the professionalism of the police and doctors at the scene of the mas-"We see in a moment of ago-

ny what is best for our community and in our country ... Doubtless we will learn more stories of quick-thinking and grace under pressure as the de-tails unfold," Mr Clinton said. before calling for "a moment of silent prayer" for "those who lost their lives, for those who were wounded, for their families and those who love them and care for their community".

White House officials offered no suggestions for tightening US gun control laws. but said that a review was under way to see if any government action was required to

improve school safety.

Joe Lockhart, the White House spokesman, said. "From the position of the federal government we would acknowledge that there are limits to what we can do."

on the policy implications."

"All of us are struggling to understand exactly what hap pened and why." Mr Clinion

Tony Blair sent a message o sympathy to President Clinton yesterday, expressing "shock and dismay" over the killings in Denver. He was joined in his expression of sympathy by the Tories and the Liberal Democrats.

Mr Blair said that following the Dunblane tragedy, the killings in the United States would evoke many emotions across Britain. He added that the decision to ban handens after Dunblane had been the right one", ensuring a bright?

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DENVER SHOOTING: THE GANG



# Smart mavericks capable of a terrible violence

Schoolmates tell Giles Whittell of trenchcoated youth's rage against life

LIKE the dead and injured, they came from middle-class families. They were not vic-tims of broken homes. They were both "smart" and "gifted", and they enjoyed tenpin bowling. Yet something about life had soured them in the

teris when

Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold went to war on Tuesday having given plenty of warning. They and their friends wore armbands saying "I hate people" and scrawled mess-ages like "Kill all athletes" in their school lavatories - but to prosperous Littleton, nothing about them seemed worth taking seriously.

The first two martyrs of the Trenchcoat Mafia turned up for a pre-school bowling class

differents Insanity's healthy!

Remember rocking parties at

Kristen's, foos-ball at Joe's,

Christopher's! Stay alive,

stay different, stay crazy! Oh, and stay away from CREAM SODA!!

and fencing at

Love Always.

Recipe for pipe

bombs on Net

before their massacre seeming calm, others were there recalled. Three days earlier they had gone to a New Yorktheme party after the school prom "in pretty good spirits". according to a friend.

Most fellow pupils at Columbine High School knew of the Trenchcoat Mafia's sinister garb. Some knew they wrote dark poetry, immersed themselves in World War Two history and the heavy metal of Marilyn Manson, and were liable to offer "Heil Hitler" as a greeting. The idea that they would carry out their threats was, however, unthinkable,

"I knew they were capable of violence. I just didn't know they would actually do it," said Pauline Colby, a former mem-

We are Josh, Joe, Chris, Horst, Chuck, Brian, Panline, Weste,

Kriston, Krista, plus Tad, Alex. Cory. Who says ore're

ber of the teenage gang. "They were very angry, but they didn't know how to release their anger. They were angry about people not accepting them and no one knowing how smart they were."

They were "jerks", "out-casts" or "satamists", depending on who you talked to at their school. But some actually liked them, and their insights only deepen the mystery of

why the two boiled over. "He was into guns and stuff like that, but he was pretty nice to me," said Mike Vendegnia, a fellow pupil who played fantasy baseball with Klebold. "He was just a normal kid." Joe Mallon agreed. "He never really got angry at anyone." The same was not true of Har-

Trenchesat Mafia

ris, whose sworn enemies were the school's sports stars; its "jocks".

"He was going after jocks," arris's friend, Brooks Harris's Brown, said emphatically after the shooting: "He-hated them with a passion because they always made fun of him and threatened him. They did [second] year."

The pair may have used guns belonging to Harris's father, a retired military officer, sources told yesterday's Den-

They were also often heard at school discussing how to ob-tain assault weapons and Uzistyle machine pistols. Besides building websites for a hobby. they built bombs.
"We found pipe bombs, incendiary bombs and propane

bombs with nails and timing

devices," Sheriff John Stone

said yesterday, when the risk of more explosions forced police to leave the dead where they had fallen. . Neighbours reported hearing sawing and grinding noises from the closed garage at the Harris home in a Littleton cul-de-sac last week - noises

makeshift bomb factory. By Tuesday evening Brooks

that could have been from a

Brown, for one, was seeing things clearly with the benefit of hindsight.

Harris "did it because he hated people", he said. "He loved the idea of killing people." ple. That's how I knew it would end the way that this did."

# FBI alerted to bomb website

in the second section of the second s HOME-MADE "pipe bombs" like those left scattered around the Colorado school can be built at minimal cost using a recipe available on the Internet, according to US police who describe bombmaking as a growing craze

amoog American teenagers. The 30 or more bombs found by police searching Columbine High School were made from such easily obtain-able household items as propane, petrol and soap.

Hundreds of books and manuais, as well as many internet sites, provide instructions on how to combine the ingredients to make bombs that are easy to conceal and devastatingly powerful. A metal pipe bomb less than a foot long can contain crough explosive to kill at a range of

More than a third of bombrelated incidents in the US involve juveniles with homemade devices. Attempts to re-

strict the flow of bomb-making information have run foul of the First Amendment. which guarantees freedom of

loternet discussion groups routinely exchange tips on bomb-making, and ooe site offers instructions on "bleach bombs", "jug bombs" and let-

"There's a lot of information on the internet, home recipes and such, and there's nothing much we can do about it," Dan Boch, of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, said recently after a pipe bomb had been placed by two teenagers outside a state police barracks in

Last year local authorities in Washington DC issued a pamphlet offering tips on how to spot if a child is a secret bomb-maker. "Generally these teenagers excel at academic activities," the pamAMERICA Online contacted the FBI yesterday about the content posted on its service by one of the gummen in the Colorado school massacre.

A search had shown that Eric Harris maintained a web-site through AOL, an Internet service provider, that included two pages about making pape bombs and other explosives. But Kim McCreery, an AOL

spokeswoman, said that there was no immediate evidence that anyone had posted warnings on the Internet before the

She was responding to what had been considered a warning on another member's profile that said: "Preparin' for the big April 20. You'll all be sorry that day." She pointed out that after big news events members' profiles often flooded with hoaxes.

At the scene of the shootings, a Sheriff's spokesman, Steve Davis. said that police had been unable to find a

motive for the shooting, but they had heard speculation that it was connected to the anniversary of the birth of Adoli

Other pupils told investiga-tors that the Trenchcoat Malia, a group of a dozen pu-pils linked to the two suspects. wore swastikas on their clothes and liked to discuss

"They took real pride in him. It was creepy," one girl told reporters. Within hours of the shoot-

ings, messages from people purporting to be the Trenchcoat Mafia surfaced on the Internet. Early on Tuesday evening a search turned up 22 hits. Two hours later there

in his AOL member profile. Harris, who killed himself after the shootings, described his hobbies as: "Professional doom and doom, creator, meeting beautiful temales, being



·-- Pupils help a distraught friend after being evacuated. The killers talked about guns and bombs at school

# A Sainsbury's offer that cuts the mustard.



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#### **DENVER SHOOTING: THE GUN DEBATE**

# Clinton avoids weapons issue

HOLLYWOOD VETERAN SEEKS HOMELY IMAGE FOR GUN CAMPAIGNERS

Washington: Charlton Heston is leading the Na-

tional Rifle Association's charm offensive (lan Bro-

dle writes). The idea is to show that the lobby group

is made up of ordinary folk who are just trying to de-

fend their constitutional freedoms, including the

The best way to deter crime is to allow law-abid-

ing citizens to carry handguns, the Hollywood star.

74, says. Giving people the right to carry concealed

weapons creates a "climate of uncertainty" for criminals. "In a world where the wolves can't tell

the lions from the sheep, the entire flock is safe."

for pro-gun campaigns. Yesterday, after the Colora-do massacre, the NRA was not returning calls. Its

But school shootings are making things harder

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

In an emotional speech evoking the "horror and agony" of the Colorado massacre yesterday, Bill Clinton pointedly avoided any reference to guncontrol, knowing only too well the bitter passions aroused by attempts to restrain America's enduring love affair with

The Clinton presidency has scored some notable successes in its efforts to control guns. but it has also been exposed to the full rage of the pro-gun lobby and the strength of the nation's ingrained attachment to

Administration officials concede that any programme for the radical overhaul of US gun laws, such as Britain's clampdown on weapons following the Dunblane massacre, is doomed to failure. Recent ef-forts to introduce legislation. such as a Bill to close the loophole that allows private individuals to sell weapons at gun shows without carrying out background checks, have been rebuffed by the Republicandominated congress.

Rather than raise the incen-

diary issue of restricting gun ownership or sales, Mr Clinion has instead blamed the Denver massacre on "violent images and experiences that warp young perspectives and obscure the consequences of vi-

In the days ahead we will do all we can to see what else we can do." he said, with a studied vagueness bourne of repeated and painful clashes nver gun-control.

Although a native of Arkansas, where gun-ownership is close to a religion and children

Heston: says handguns

help to prevent crime

of any age can own rifles or shotguns. Mr Clinton has earned the undying enmity of the gun lobby with his efforts to bring in weapons legisla-

Last year, after the playground killings in Jonesboro, Arkansas, he banned the import of 58 types of assault weapon in a major blow to the Naoonal Rifle Association (NRA). which accused the president of bending the law".

There are still too many children in harm's way. You don't need an Uzi to go deer the weapons, allowing them to

hunting and you don't need an AK-47 to go skeet shooting. These are weapons of war, they are not needed for a day in the country," Mr Clinton

The order, which immediately prevented 1.5 million highpowered guns from coming onto the US market, followed two earlier efforts to outlaw the guns. A 1989 ban by president George Bush and another by Mr Clinton in 1994 foundered when manufacturers made minute modifications to be classified as sporting rifles. Mr Clinton was also responsible for pushing through the highly controversial Brady Bill in 1993, the first successful effort to regulate guns for 25 years, which required a fiveday waiting period following

the purchase of a handgun to allow police checks. The bill was named after former White House press secretary James Brady, the living symbol of the campaign for greater gun control, who was permanently disabled in the attempted assassination of Ron-

critics were out in force. "The NRA is slowly losing

ground, but is still very powerful," said Osha Gray

Davidson, author of a critique of the organisation.

He thinks its claimed membership of three million

is inflated by hundreds of thousands. According to

Handgun Control, which campaigns for laws to

curb guns, the NRA spent \$3.4 million (£2.12 mil-

flon) in support of pro-gun candidates in last No-

Even without the NRA, guns would be part of Am-

erican life, as they have been through the Wars of

Independence, the Civil War, the taming of the fron-

tier, and despite the rule of the Mafia and inner-city

drugs networks. Violence, in films and television, is

at the heart of much of today's popular culture.

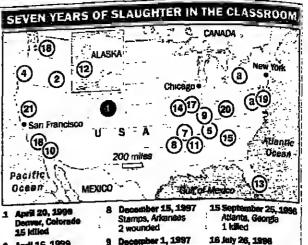
vember's Congressional elections.

ald Reagan in 1981. The White House says the measure has prevented at least 250,000 "unsuitable" Americans with criminal, mental or drug records from obtaining guns - al-though part of the bill was later struck down by the Supreme Court.

The NRA and other pro-gun lobbying groups insist such efforts represent a direct infringment of the constitutional 'right to keep and bear arms". But Mr Clinton has also come under fire from groups demanding tougher restrictions, who claim that a general ban on specific classes of weapons would have far more effect than a "piecemeal" approach. US Attorney General Janet

Reno yesterday argued that stricter gun control laws were not a complete solution to youth violence. "We've got to make sure young people have the counseling, the support to help them come to grips with the anger of their life," she

Meanwhile, announcing his candidacy for President yester-day, conservative Gary Bauer, a fierce opponent of gun control, ascribed the Colorado killings to moral degeneration



9 December 1, 1997 April 16, 1999 Notus, Idaho No one injured 10 October 22, 1997 June 15, 1998 May 21, 1898

Springfield, Oregon 2 Idlied, 22 wounds May 19, 1998 1 killed April 24, 1998 Edinboro, Penr. 1 kBed, 3 wounded

14 October 31, 1996

19 October 30, 1995 Richmond, Virginia 4 wounded 21 May 1, 1992

17 July 26, 1996

18 February 2, 1996

Bloody start to 'era of peace'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN WASHINGTON

THE bloodshed in Colorado comes just weeks after Richard Riley. US Education Secretary, hailed a new era of peace in the country's schools, citing measures to combat youth violence and bring greater community involvement by parents and teachers.

A 1997 survey found that one in five high school students had recently carried a gnn, but the Littleton killings were the first at school since last July. Then a Florida man shot his wife, a teacher, before shooting himself.

Last October, after six school killings in a year left 14 dead. President Clintoo convened a conference on youth violence. In April a plan was noveiled to award more than \$300 million (£186 million) to communities to prevent such violence by stopping truancy, courses on re-solving conflicts, new security

equipment and promoting after-school activities.

The programme also inciuded \$80 million for hiring community police officers and \$40 million for counselling youths deemed most at Some Republicans claimed that the steps were merely a sign of the President "pandering" for votes before congressional elections.

Three weeks ago the Government began accepting applications for the funds. Janet Reno, US Attorney-Geoeral, said: "When law enforcement works in partnership with our schools and our health professionals and with parcots and the whole communi-

ty, we can prevent violence." Carolyn McCarthy, a Democratie Congress member, has been pushing for a Bill to require child-locks on haodguns and the revoking of the licences of dealers selling

## England's saint a cover for fascists

By STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

birthday has become a lowkey affair for Britain's neo-Nazis. According to Gerry Gable, publisher of Searchlight, which monitors the extreme Right, there are probably no more than 500 members of the British National Party who mark the occasionin the back bar of a friendly pub or the function room of a small hotel.

Searchlight estimates that

the day might also be marked by about 50 members of Combat 18, which claimed to have

last weekend. Some groups George's Day, this Friday, as a cover to celebrate the Führer's birthday. At least two pribeing planned this weekend at Midlands. Mr Gable said one businessman who lives in Suffolk was well-known for his an-

nual parties.

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# Gloomy tribal craze that was born in Britain

THE goth sub-culture from which Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris merged began in Britain among the followers of doom-jaden, post-punk rock

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ft has grown to embrace a plethera of diverse youth urbesincluding devil worship-pers ind followers of vampirism. When adolescents started dyeing their hair black and paining their faces white at the biginning of the 1980s they werejust deemed a little odd. but threat to no one.

They were particularly prev-

alen in Leeds for some reason, and then began to colonise he pokier corners of London They enjoyed being gloony, moping around in darkned rooms by day listening b dreary songs swamped by havy guitars and drums. They then emerged at night, cladiesd to toe in black, to attendhe bands' concerts. They werimore likely to be univer-

sity tudents who had over-

dose on Shelley or Edgar Alla Poe than seriously antisoci crazies. Bi as the movement spread to Anerica more and more fring groups emerged. There are lozens of goth websites confining long, rambling ex-planations of goth culture. "Gerally the personality of a goth's kind of dark," says one typial site. There is some foculon death, but once again

**Damian** 

Whitworth on the origins of

> exported to America

a sub-culture

live in a society that shuns the thought of death. Goths are not obsessed with death. They just don't fear it."

There have been persistent claims that many American teenagers have developed a fascination with bloody medieval behaviour after becoming obsessed with fantasy role-playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons. Sessions can last for days as the wildest and goriest dreams are fulfilled by the roll of a dice.

The gothic lifestyle and roleplaying games became the subject of sometimes hystercial national debate after the "vampire murders" of 1996 in which a suburban Florida couple were killed by teenage members of a vampire cult.

The gang had become involved in vampirism after steeping themselves in a role-playing game called Vampire: the Masquerade. Andy Grieser, the author of a book on

sands were involved in vampirism. There has been huge controversy too about Marilyn Manson, the androgynous male singer and high priest of goth, who professes Satanic sympathies and is reported to have been a favourite of Websid and Language. Klebold and Harris.

The black trenchcoats that the two killers apparently wore all the time, rain or shine, may also be significant and indicate that the boys had strayed to the outer reaches of society. Trenchcoats are used as a symbol of Nazism on a number of websites and fellow students have attested that the boys expressed white supremacist views.

One said: "They always have the neo-Nazi look, so we were talking about them and Hitler's birthday even before the shooting started. Every-body knew it was Hitler's birthday."

On one website a skeleton

can be seen dancing above a fire and the words "The Trenchcoat". A poem includes the lines: "There will be no performance today/There will be no curtain call/He can no longer perform for you/So witness the grandest spectacle of all/ lt's a one-night engagement/ So make your way to the front/ It's the death of a jester/It's one dead man's show. There are no mourners today/Only spectators at the scene/Relishing in this bizarre event . . .



Heavy metal star Marilyn Manson, who named himself after Charles Manson

# Cult following of rock star who apes serial killer

By ELIZABETH JUDGE

MAILYN MANSON is a heavy meli star and self-styled "anti-Chst" with a cult following in Arrica and Britain.

Is band's official website in-clues a "Shrine to Marilyn Man-

sor page and a "Marilyn Manson Ald". Visitors to the site can join the hate God" web-ring. Yesterda messages left by people who

had logged on included "Manson is God and I am sick of people judg-ing him," and "I would do anything for Manson".

Manson, 31, was born in Ohio as Brian Warner but renamed himself after the murderer Charles Manson. Other members of the four-strong band, which is based in Florida, are named after a child-killer, a murderer and a stalker. Their last British concert, at the Brixton Acad-

emy in December, was a sell-out. The group are appearing at Glaston-bury this year and will perform alongside the rock group Metallica at a one-day event at Miltoo Keynes

On their first tour to Britain in 1996, they were not made to feel so welcome. Their reputation had preceded them, with rumours of animal sacrifices and lurid sex acts being part of their show. Westminster

venue in the borough.

The last of the three albums Man-

soo has released, Mechanical Animals, has sold more than two million copies in America. One of the songs includes the line: "And I was a hand grenade that never stopped exploding. You were automatic and as hollow as the 'o' in God."

Last year, Manson, who is engaged to the actress Rose McGow-

an, published his autobiography The Long Hard Road out of Hell. an account of a dysfunctional American outsider who becomes a

superstar. John Harris, Editor of Select music magazine, said it would be wrong to ban Manson's music "It would be totally wrong to link the music with the killings in Denver. I am sure those children eat burgers as well but we would not ban them."

# DiCaprio role as killer in trenchcoat

FROM DAMIAN WHITWORTH IN WASHINGTON

IN the film the carnage was all a dream. But the grim reality of the Colorado shootings has focused fresh attention on the controversial movie The Basketball Diaries.

The film includes a dream sequence in which a former high-school basketball player, played by Leonardo DiCaprio, opens fire on children and teachers. DiCaprio is seen wearing a black trenchcoat similar to hose that were worn by the suspects at Columbine High School.

The movic is already the subject of a \$130 million (£80 million) suit brought by families who claim that it inspired the shooting at a Kentucky high school in 1997 in which a 14-year-old boy killed three pupils. Michael Carneal has said that he was partly inspired by the film to attack a

prayer group. Seagram and Sony. makers of violent video games that Carneal enjoyed playing, have also been named in the suit, which is seeking \$30 millioo in compensa-



Poster for film linked to youth violence

tioo and \$100 millioo in pu nitive damages.

In a separate case, the family of a woman who claims she was the victim of a copycat shooting in-spired by Oliver Stone's film Natural Born Killers were given permission to sue the director. The Supreme Court rejected Mr Stone's claim that the film was protected by constitu-tional free-speech rights.



DiCaprio as he appears in Basketball Diaries

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#### Widow's record £7m goes to the dogs

BY CHRISTINE MIDDAP

A CHELSEA widow has left £7 million to the Canine Defence League. It is the biggest single legacy left to ao animal charity. Her executor. Neil East-

wood, said that Nora Fielden Hecksher, 80. who had no children. was a very charming lady who loved dogs. Despite her wealth she lived frugally and was more interested in the comfort of dogs than herself."

National Canine Defence League director Siobtian Lavelle said the charity was. "absolutely stunned and moved" by the generous bequest.

She said the charity would use the money to help to achieve its aim of ensuring that no healthy dog in Britain was destroyed. The league received £13 million from donations last year, and its largest bequest had pre-viously been nearly

Mrs Hecksher's personal wealth grew from a trust fund established by her Liverpool-based family, who were in the animal feed industry. She had always loved dogs and had adopted many from the Battersea Dogs' Home.

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# Charity begins with the rich in hard times

CHARITIES are spending thousands of pounds buying access to confidential lists of millionaires in an attempt to reverse the decline in individual giving.

Firms that specialise in tracking down people capable of making donations of up to £500,000 report a growing in-terest in their services from voluntary organisations of all sizes. They can provide details of people's wealth, interests and family circumstances, enabling charities to target those most likely to be sympathetic

to their causes. Since the advent of the National Lottery five years ago, there has been a 31 per cent drop in personal donations to charity. Average monthly gifts have fallen from £10.08 in 1993 to £8.54.

Andrew Thomas, chief execurive of Charity Consultants, which has a database of around 40,000 potential donors, said there was an art to extracting money from the rich. "The first thing to remem-her is, don't ask for too little. tn the ten years I have been in this business I have only twice had someone give more than

He said that charities often had no idea how many very Alexander

Frean reports on the agencies

that seek out philanthropic millionaires

rich donors they already had on their mailing lists. One ma-jor charity had been surprised recently to receive a cheque for £500,000 from an individual supporter after it had made an emergency relief appeal through a routine mail shot.

On another occasion, when asked to analyse a charity's mailing list of 80,000 names. Mr Thomas discovered, much to the charity's surprise, that it contained at least 700 individuals capable of making gifts of up to £500,000. Mr Thomas, who addressed

the annual Charityfair conference in London yesterday, advises charities not to write begging letters but to engineer meetings with potential donors, either by approaching them through a well-placed contact or inviting them to a

champagne reception at a gallery or museum, or an open day at the charity's head office.

The best potential donors are those potential donors are those brought up in the 1960s and 1970s. They have a strong desire to "help the world", Mr Thomas says and include self-made millionaires and those at a crossroads in

Robin Jones from The Factary, the Bristol-based fundraising consultants, said it was important for charities to approach only individuals known to have an interest in their cause.

His company compiles profiles of likely donors by monitoring the press, the Internet and company reports, and scouring Debrett's Peerage and Who's Who.

Caroline Abrahams of the National Children's Bureau, which is hiring a donor fundraiser, said: "Targeting major donors is a fairly cost effective way of raising money." A spokeswoman for Oxfam

said that it had hired a specialist firm to analyse its existing mailing list and identify potential donors. "It is of limited use, but it does work. This year we received a donation of nearly El million. It was a very nice surprise."



The 600-year-old bonsai tree that once adorned the Japanese emperor's hotel room

#### **Imperial** bonsai may fetch £50,000 at Sotheby's

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE ancient art of bonsai is to return to the London auction rooms for the first time in more than a century, with one miniature tree expected to fetch about £50,000 when it is sold in June.

The 600-year-old yew, Taxus cuspidata, is known as The tree of the emperor's gaze". It became well known at the end of the last century when it was placed in a room in the Otaru Hotel used by the Japanese emperor when he visited Hokkaido island o inspect the herring catch.

The tree is a vamadori. a nat-urally stunted specimen origi-nally collected from the wild in the mountains. Yamadoi are rare and valuable now that restrictions have been placed on collecting specimens andmost bonsai are raised by paiistaking horticultural techniques designed to mimic the effects of growing where trees are exposed to the elements in ocky

or craggy mountain regins. Mark Hill, bonsai exert at Sotheby's, the auction ouse that is staging the sale or June 17 as part of its Asia Veek. said yesterday that a £5,000 value would probably spresent the top end of the basai market in Europe.

☐ http://www.sotheby.com is the Sotheby's website.

How modern trees took root

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

THE tree that dominated the Earth's forests 370 million years ago bad almost all the characteristics of its modern equivalents, scientists have discovered.

Specimens found recently in the Moroccan Sahara show that Archaeopteris had buge roots, a branching trunk, lateral buds oo both branch and trunk, and could live for more than a century. The sum of knowledge about tbe extinct tree had previously been small because researchers had only been able to

study pieces of its trunk. Archdeopteris is now known to nave beed a larg conifer-like tree, growing lo 60 feet or more, but its leaves were like those of ferns and it spread by releasing spores. It made up to 90 per ceot of the forests in the late Devonian period, when plants greatly reduced carboo dioxide levels in the atmosphere and boosted the levels of oxygeo. "Archaeopteris made the

world almost a modern

world in terms of ecosytems that surround us now," 'rof-essor Stephen Scheckly of the Virgioia Polytehnic Institute and State University said in Nature.

Professor Scheckler, Dr Brigitte Meyer-Berthaul of the University of Montpelier and Dr Jobst Weodt o the University of Tübingeo wat to Morocco last year lo ook for specimens. "In three days, we filld a truck," he said. "It was the

and we found hundreds ouramples. And we also found roots, which had previous ly been mostly conjecture. The trees had lateral bids that enabled them to kep growing when its leading ip died, a feature unique amoig

first bine we had seen trink

braoching on Archaeopteis,

plants of that era. It was an the longest-living of its tim. "Other plants ran out if ability to grow," Professr Scheckler said. "These tres could grow for 100 years in



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# Silcott ally's trouble with the law

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THE SILCOTT FILE



jailed for life for the murder of PC Keith Blakelock, who died after receiving 42 knife and machete wounds in the Broadwater Farm riots. PC Blakelock. 40.

had three children. Silcott's conviction was quashed by the Court of Appeal in 1991 after tests suggested that police might have against him. He received about £17.000 compensation for his

wrongful conviction. In 1988 Silcott had been convicted of the murder of Anthony Smith, 22, a boxer. during a fight at a party. He claimed he had acted in self-defence The Criminal Cases Review Commission last year declined a request from Silcott's lawyers to refer the Smith case to the Court nf Appeal on the ground of fresh evidence.

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Convicted rapist claims repeated arrests are racial harassment by police. Dominic Kennedy reports

A LEADING member of the campaign to secure Winston Silcott's freedom, who has accused the police of racially harassing him, has another reason why officers might regard him in an unfavourable light. Fifteen years ago Delroy Lindo, then a newly married disc jockey, was jailed for 30 months by an Old Bailey judge for rape.

But is that enough to explain why Mr Lindo has had 10 go to court to fight nine minor charges in the past three years, and been cleared of every one of them, or is Mr Lindo, now a 39-year-old father-ofthree, justified in his claim that he has been persistently arrested by officers in a brutal campaign of victimisation for publicly supporting his child-

Mr Lindo says he has been harassed by the police sincehe began supporting Silcott, who was convicted of murdering PC Keith Blakelock in the Broadwater Farm riots in 1985 but was cleared on appeal eight years ago.

A year before the constable's death, Mr Lindo had been imprisoned for the rape of a 20-year-old typist. Could this be a reason for the police's

Mr Lindo has become one of the loudest voices against police racism. In February he delivered a peodon to Downing Street as part of an anti-racism march, and he has helped to organise demonstrations against

the force. He has issued a writ against the Metropolitan Police Commissioner. Sir Paul Condon, alleging malicious prosecution, assault and false imprisonment, which Scotland Yard has said it will de-

Is it because of his high-profile campaigning against the police that Mr Lindo has been stopped 11 times and had to go to court on six occasions during the past three years?

He has been acquitted of nine offences, including breach of the peace, threatening behaviour, assault, criminal damage, obstruction and having an illegible car number-plate. His wife, Sonia, 37, a housing officer, was cleared of breaching the peace.

Mr Lindo's case has been nighlighted in the national, local and ethnic minority press. The Independent on Sunday devoted an article to his complaints in September under the headline "Who'd Be Silcott's Friend?". The Weekly Gleaner, a newspaper for the West Indian community, described Mr and Mrs Lindo as the victims of a police hate campaign.

Neighbours distressed by seeing the couple arrested outside their home in Hornsey. North London, wrote to Sir Paul about "a case of total harassment on the part of the police". The letter said: "They are lovely people, totally dis-traught at what is going on." During the 1980s, Mr Lindo

Delroy and Sonia Lindo with supporters outside the court where he was cleared of his ninth charge in three years school playing field, hit her and raped her, Mr Lindo said and Silcott ran a mobile discotheque. Mr Lindo was jailed in 1984 for raping the typist on the day he returned from his she had invented the allegadon to get revenge on him for marrying.
After the riots on the Broadhoneymoon. The Old Bailey judge said it was a nasty at-

water Farm estate in Tottentack, aggravated by violence ham, the police arrested Siland sexual indignides. According to a trial report in cott, who was already on bail a North London weekly newsfor the murder of Anthony paper, Mr Lindo grabbed the Smith, a boxer, and he was acwoman at a disco, took her to a cused him of killing PC Blake-

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lock."I knew nothing about campaigning but I just knew I had to do something to help my friend," Mr Lindo, an unemployed housing official, said recently. "I started cam-paigning for him. I became a

target from then."

The spate of arrests in the past three years coincided with a period when Mr Lindo was the driving force behind Silcott's unsuccessful cam-paign to be cleared of the Smith murder, for which he is

This week a jury at Wood Green Crown Court, North Lon-don, took 50 minutes to deliver a unanimous not guilty verdict after Mr Lindo's twoday trial for dangerous driving.

Afterwards, asked about his rape conviction, Mr Lindo said: "That's got nothing to do with it. Why would they want to target me for anything to do with that? They arrested me for the riots, didn't they? "It's just unbelievable that you could be fishing around. to be trying to discredit me in such a way now. They have made it quite clear at the police station and during arrest that it is about Winston Silcott. My wife has no convictions at all. Why her?

Mr Lindo has a point. His criminal record is legally spent and he has not been in trouble for 12 years. No one else in the area has been arrested and subsequently acquitted so frequently. So why does it keep happening?

There is speculation that senfor police officers are now keen to avoid more wrangles with Mr Lindo, and there may be an out-of-court settlement of his writ. Meanwhile, Silcott is as firmly behind bars as ever.

A spokesman for the Metropolitan Police said yesterday: There are currently outstanding complaints. There is still an outstanding civil action. No date has been decided for a

# Adulterous officer loses sex bias case

By Helen Johnstone

being acquitted of scandalous A SENIOR officer dismissed from the Army after an adulterous affair with a high-ranking Wren, who has since been recommended for promotion, was not a victim of sexual discrimination, an employment

tribunal ruled yesterday. The tribunal found that a woman Army officer behaving in the same way would have faced the same punishment. Keith Pople, 42, a lieutenant-colonel appeared before a military court last April after a three-year affair with the Wren. whom he met while they were both working at the Ministry of Defence in Whitehall.

He was later sacked, despite

dice of good order and military discipline. The tribunal, at Southampion, had been told that the 34-year-old Wren. who cannot be named for legal reasons, had kept her job because the Royal Navy adopted a more lenient approach than the Army to social misconduct.

conduct or conduct to the preju-

After the ruling, Mr Pople's solicitor expressed deep disappointment that the defence ministry had managed to defeat the claim on technical grounds. Lawyers for the Defence Secretary had argued that each of the Services has individual powers over its personnel.

NEWS IN BRIEF Sellafield plutonium missing in Birthd the toa

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More than a third of the plutonium released into the sea from the Sellafield ouclear complex in Combria seems to have disappeared. It had been assumed that

Irish Sea

the plutonium was trapped in sediments in the Irish Sea. but radioactivity monitoring shows a "shortfall" that represents 36 per cent of the plutonium released. Scientists believe that it may have been trapped in sand or washed to Scotland and Scandanavia. Murdoch Baxter, former director of the International Atomic Energy Agency's Ma-

rine Environment Laboratory. Inld New Scientist that the discrepancies were "disap-pointing". "Having made these excessive releases into the nearshore environment nf a populated area ... they claimed for decades that aimost all the pintonium had re-mained in Irish Sea sediments" he said.

A spokesman for British Nuclear Fuels, which runs the plant, said that to get figures to match so closely over such a long period was a good result.

#### Verdict of killing

Eric Nicholls, 64, a former mechanic, of Sulhampstead, Berkshire, was jailed for 30 months for the manslaughter nf a neighbour Anthony Jones, 82, a retired major, whom he beat with a walking stick.

#### Murder remand

Harry Pennells, 74, a former larry driver, of Ticehurst, East Sussex, was remanded in custody accused of murdering an unknown woman, whose beateo body was fonod io Bedge-hury Forest. Kent, in 1979.

#### Sex charges

Five men have been charged with indecent assault against former pupils of Stonyhurst College oear Clitheroe in Lancashire, a leading Roman Catholic public school, Police predict further arrests.

#### Body in pond

The naked body of a man. badly beaten about the head, has been found in a pond at Bicester, Oxfordshire. Police said the unidentified man, in his late 20s, had been in the pond for nuly a few days.

#### Crazy comeback

The Osmands are in talks to play in Britain after a Virgio Atlantie advertising campaign used their 1972 hit Crazv Horses as a backing track. The American group also

Carpet cleans up

A 1300-year-old scrap of carpet has fetched £29,900 at. Bonhams in London. The Iftsquare remnant, fnund oo a Cairo dump, is dirty and holed hut is one of the oldest specimens of its kind.

plans to re-release the single.

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# Birthday Queen is the toast of Korea

Hosts make a song and dance of the celebrations, writes Alan Hamilton

THE Queen celebrated her 73rd birthday yesterday with a trip to the countryside, a glass of rice wine, an armful of trinkets and an airline lunch of gold beef. Like most women her age, she said she didn't want a fuss.

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But she did not escape entire-But she did not escape entirely scot-free. At a concert in Seoul last night Lesley Garrett, the Doncaster diva, accompanied by a choir of Korean schoolchildren, sang a surprise rendition of Happy Birthday, and the Queen looked genunely touched, smiling and nodding her approval with the hint of a tear in her eye. hint of a tear in her eye.

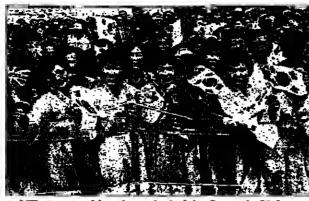
When she subsequently ap-peared on stage with her guest, President Kim Dae Jung, to meet the performers. the packed house of 1,700 Britons and Koreans rose and gave her a full minute's standing ovation, which she acknowledged with a warm and broad smile. "Thank you very much; that was lovely." she said to Ms Garrett.

Earlier, on the third day of her state visit to Korea, the Queen escaped the traffic and smog of Seoul, flying 150 miles south to the preserved heritage village of Hahoe, which despite its primary function as a tourist magnet still has a permanent population of 290. There has been a settlement here since about the time Caesar first visited Britain.

Ushered into the open court-yard of a traditional wooden house, the Queen met the occupant, Ryu Young-Ha, whose family has lived there for generations. Several of Mr Ryu's female relatives squatted on the ground amid an array of clay pots and bowls,

One was preparing a vat of kimchi, a wicked pickle of cabbage, chilli and garlic. "It preserves the food, does it?" asked the Queen, her nose wrinkling imperceptibly, It also preserves a respectful distance between the kimchi eater and those who enjoy fresh air.

Followed by her entourage, the Queen was directed into the inner apartments of the house — but not before being up 13 steep stone steps to view his three golden Buddhas and



Villagers awaiting the arrival of the Queen in Hahoe

come true.

invited her to add a pebble to a pile, a symbolic act which he

assured her would bring her luck and make her dreams

Perhaps it was the wrong

sort of pebble, or perhaps the

Queen placed it upside down.

but the act cast a momentary

evil spell on the proceedings as a mysterious all-pervading whiff of raw sewage briefly passed across the sunlit scene.

laid for tea; although she was

not offered any.

Up the crowded village street and past an ox-ploughing demonstration, the Queen was welcomed at the Talking House, the equivalent of the village hall, by a troupe of masked dancers performing a short version of a three-hour

satire on medieval rural life. The village had wanted to lay on a full-scale birthday celebration, but the Queen's advance party had insisted that she wanted something simple. Villagers carried out a birthday table groaning with sweetmeats, savouries, rice and almeats, savouries, rice and almond cakes, a miniature tree
dripping with candies — all
the fare of an important Korean birthday, usually celebrated at 60 or 70.

Kim Jong-Heung, one of the
masked dancers, was chosen
to do the honouries as he too

to do the honours as he too was celebrating a birthday his 46th. He poured two gold cups of rice wine and toasted the Queen with Seang chin chuka hamnida, Korean for Happy Birthday. "You too," his guest replied, and the

crowd applauded.

After a brief stop at a wholesale fruit and vegetable mar-ket, the Queen left with a gift of a basket of fruit including lo-cal apples. Next she went to a hilltop Buddhist monestary. for no reason other than it was there. The chief monk, the Ven-erable Moon-In, led the Queen

Last year the Queen, who once restricted her autograph to state documents, signed a Manchester United football; yesterday she signed the in-side of a glazed clay roof tile. It is to be placed atop the monastery, part of which is the oldest

wooden structure in Korea.

By the time she left the monastery, the Queen had collected birthday gifts of lucky leather pouches, a jewelled leather traditional entire the state of the sta traditional crown, a basket of fruit, a green vase, a scroll of calligraphy and a wooden mask from the play.

The Duke of Edinburgh.

whose private birthday gift remains unknown, missed the earlier part of his wife's day. He travelled north of Seoul to the demilitarised zone at Panmuniom, where the ceasefire to end the Korean war was signed in 1953.

As he surveyed the land-scape, loudspeakers in the dis-tance blared rousing totalitarian marching music. Not a patch on the super soprano from Yorkshire.

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The Queen and a Hahoe village dancer, also celebrating his birthday, drink a toast of rice wine from gold cups

# A world away from Windsor

BY TIM REID

A SOUTH KOREAN hamlet is not the strangest place the Queen has celebrated a birthday. Io 1970 she found herself

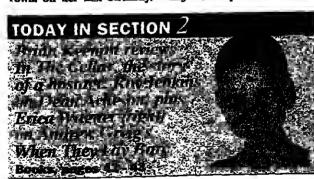
being toasted by villagers oo a tiny istand in the Coral Sca. That birthday, her 44th, fell during a five-week Austral-ian tour and was one of several far livelier and more exotic affairs than her favoured method of celebration — a family dinner at Windsor Castle. Perhaps her most unforgettable foreign birthday was the ooe she spent in Cape Town in 1947 oo her first official overseas visit.

The young Princess was in South Africa with her father, George VI. during a tour to thank the Commonwealth for its war effort. In a memorable broadcast from Cape Town, on her 21st birthday.

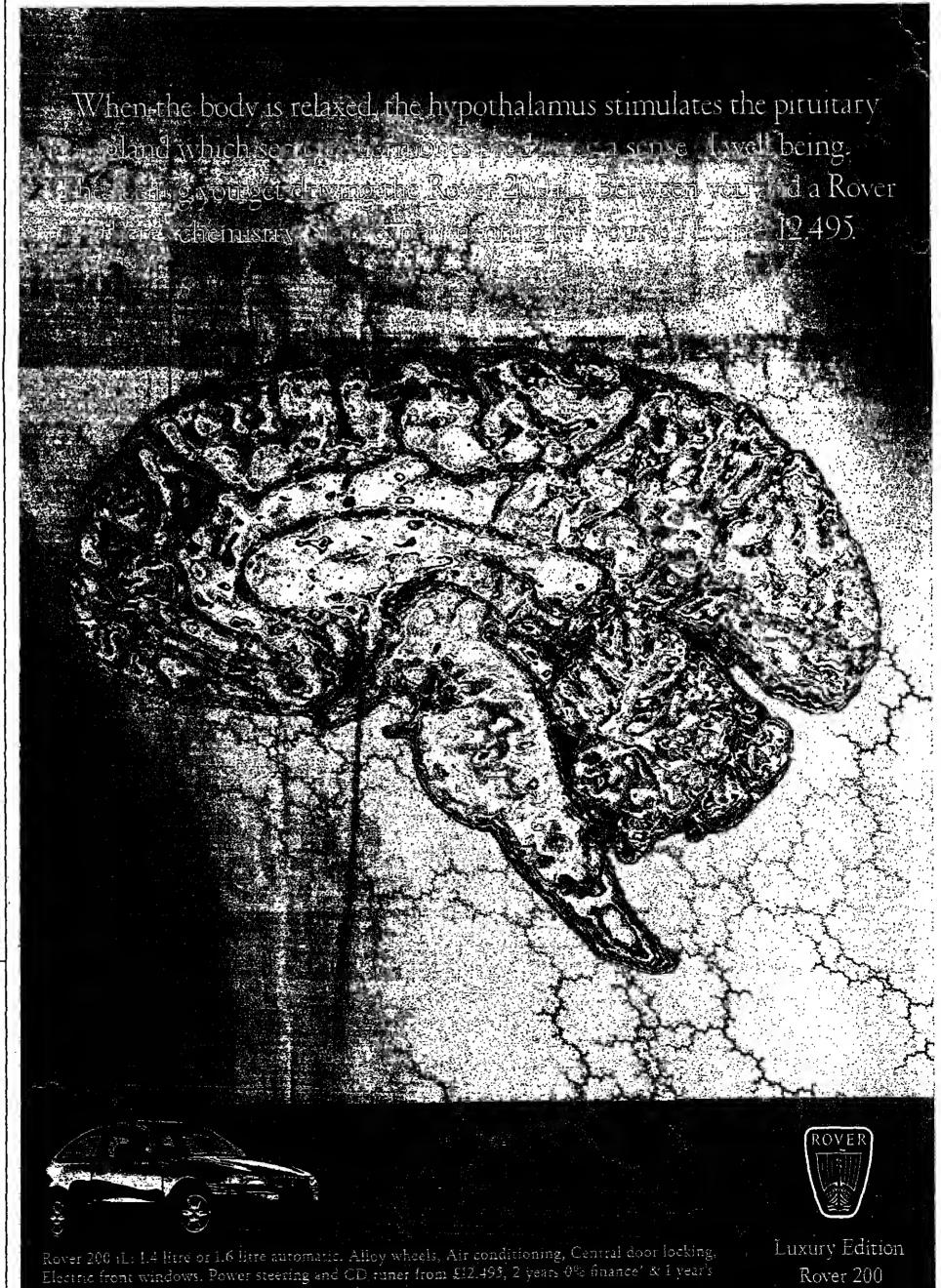
she dedicated her life to the service of her people. Three years later, accom-panied by her husband, Prin-cess Elizabeth marked her 24th birthday by watching him score the first goal in a polo match in Valletta, Malta. Maltese flags and Union Jacks decorated the streets. Jacks decorated the streets, and hundreds of bouquets were sent to the birthday girl from British warships and villagers on the island.

But in 1970, on the Australian coral Green Island, the Duke of Edinburgh raised a few cyebrows when he told a persistent photographer that

persistent photographer that he had been running around "like a blue-arsed fly". It did not dampen things too much. The Queeo was still greeted by a chorus of Happy Birth-day from reporters.









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Airlines fear tourist revolt as delays rise

report Giles

Tremlett and

Arthur Leathley

routine delays of three hours

or more. Figures for the begin-

ning of this year show a 44 per cent rise in the number of

scheduled aircraft delayed by

more than 15 minutes, with al-

most one in four flights held

up in January.

The problems in dealing with record numbers of flights

have reached crisis propor-tions, according to airlines that have experienced the big-

The Association of Europe-

an Airlines, which represents 27 major airlines, including Briosh Airways and Briosh

Midland, will tomorrow

launch its own offensive to cut

delays. It will demand that the

central air traffic control serv-

ice, based in Brussels, forces

A meeong of Eurocontrol.

the international air traffic con-

trol organisation based in

poor performers into line.

AIRLINES yesterday issued a warning of "chaos and catastrophe" across Europe this summer as they accused the international air traffic control service of causing huge delays. Carriers including British Airways fear a wave of airport protests similar to those already seen in Spain, where passengers have refused to

leave aircraft and even threatened to kidnap a pilot. Delays to flights are at their worst and airlines predict that hold-ups this year will easily exceed those of the 1980s, when millions of passengers

were stranded at airports. Controllers claim that, because equipment in several countries is so decrepit, delays are the only way to maintain acceptable safety levels.

The first signs of the crisis emerged as one of Europe's biggest airlines, the Spanish carrier Iberia, announced that it was cancelling 16,000 flights to avoid huge delays in com-

ing months.
The airline called on other carriers, including Bridsh charter firms taking more than five million tourists abroad, to boycott Spanish airspace because of the air traffic

control problems. it appeared yesterday, how-ever, that airlines would stick to their flight plans, risking

Air controllers service is inefficient, with some radar equipment almost blamed for 30 years old. Airlines will demand that Eurocontrol takes runway chaos, on more powers to enforce im-

provements. Karl-Heinz Neumeister, secretary general of the Associa-tion of European Airlines, said: "We will have catastrophe on the sun belt to the Mediterranean this summer. Already we are seeing a huge in-creased in delays and air traffic control services are nowhere near their targets for re-

ducing delays." Delays are expected to be exacerbated by the decision to close air space over Italy to accommodate Nato forces involved in the Kosovo confict. Some of the most important air traffic control services in Europe. in Geneva, Zurich. Marseilles and Padua, Italy.

are causing the worst delays. Iberia said it would suspend 77 flights a day, or almost six per cent of its daily total. The move came after a number of airport rebellions by furious passengers on delayed flights.

In one rebellion, passengers called airport police and denounced the pilot for "kidnapping" after three hours on a runway. The Civil Guard had to board the aircraft after they threatened to lynch the pilot.



Cherie Blair, right, renews her acquaintance with Celia Larkin, Ireland's first lady, at the Women's Irish Network lunch at the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park Hotel in London

#### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Urgent Bill to shield IRA killers

Parliament is to rush through a Bill to make it impossible for courts to hear evidence obtained doring the re-covery of bodies of people murdered and buried by the IRA in the 1970s.

The Bill, to be introduced as early as tomorrow, will also establish an independent commission to act as an intermediary between the 1RA and the authorities. It will not offer amoesties to those responsible for the killings.

Last month the IRA said that it had found the unmarked graves of oine of the "disappeared", but insisted oo having the legislation passed before revealing their

#### Chefs' GM ban

The television chefs Antonio Carloccio and Rose Gray joined other top chefs to launch a campaign against genetically modified food. They will display a logo on their restaurant windows and menus showing that they are avoiding GM produce in their cooking. The Greenpeace campaign may be ex-tended to food served at airports, on trains and in schoole

#### Law chief order

John Morris, the Attorney-General, has been ordered to disclose details of the secret consultations preceding the appointment of Philip Sales as First Treasury Counsel. Mr Morris was given until April 30 by an employment tribunal, which is to hear a sex bias case, to reveal the "secret socodings" with the Lord Chancellor. Lord Chief Justice and Master of the Rolls.

#### Babies hobbled

Many babies are not learning to crawl and walk properly because they spend too many bours buckled into push-chairs, rockers or car seats, a University of Michigan study has found. Re-searchers said that children who had oot been allowed enough time to practise crawling and kicking showed poor balance and co-ordination and were fatter than others.

#### Presenter dies

The woman whose voice was known to millions through the phrase "Are you sitting comfortably? Theo I'll begin", has died. Eileen Mitchell, who presented Listen with Mother, also sang many of the nursery rhymes in the programme on which she appeared for about 15 years. Mrs Mitchell died aged 76 at Sevenoaks Hospital, Kent. after a long battle with caocer.

#### Art prize shortlist

In the youngest shortlist for the NatWest Art Prize, Britain's largest art award, the ll artists have an average age of just 32. More than 600 entries, the biggest field so far. were submitted for the award, which aims to foster technical skills. The winner. to be announced on June 15. receives £26,000 and the other finalists each take £1,000. Full details, Metro. Saturday

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# Lawrences sue five suspects for damages

By Michael Harvey and Stewart Tendler

THE parents of Stephen Lawrence launched a civil action for damages yesterday against the five men suspected of killing their son.

For the first time all live men could face detailed crossexamination under oath before a jury about their involvement in the murder six years ago at a bus stop in Eltham. southeast London.

A civil action means that any evidence would be tested by a lower burden of proof than in a criminal case.

Doreen and Neville Lawrence also issued writs in the High Court in London against the Metropolitan Police and Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner, seeking compensation over the force's failed investigaoon of the killing.

The writs were issued the day before the sixth anniversary of Stephen's death and just within the time limit for launching civil actions.

The family's solicitor, Imran Khan, said: "I can confirm on behalf of Mr and Mrs Law-rence that I have today issued protective writs in the High Court against certain individuals considered to be responsible for the murder of Stephen Lawrence. This is for damages

arising out of and in consequence of the murder of Stephen Lawrence.

"I can also confirm that I have today issued a protective writ on behalf of Mr and Mrs Lawrence against the Metropolitan Police. The writ is for damages arising out of the failed investigation into the murder."

The writs have legal precedents. In 1991 the relatives of Lynn Siddons, 16, murdered in Derby in 1978, successfully sued Michael Brookes over the murder. The court awarded the family £10,000 and he was later convicted of killing the

Three of the suspects in the Lawrence case - Neil Acourt, Luke Knight and Gary Dobson - were formally acquitted of the murder of Stephen three years ago when a private prosecudon brought by the family collapsed. Under current law they cannot face further criminal charges for the murder. The case against Jamie Acourt and David Norris was dropped before it reached court. In theory they could still

Last night lawyers for the suspects said they had not received official notification.

be tried.

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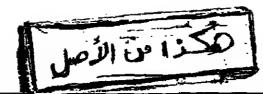
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# Relatives stormed a ward to resuscitate this boy. Doctors say he should be left to die

Court asked to rule on parent's right to demand life-saving

care, reports Michael Horsnell

RELATIVES of a profoundly disabled boy became involved in a violent dispute on a children's hospital ward when told hat he should be allowed to die a court was told yesterday. Doctors and police were injured in the fracas as the family tried to resuscitate him.

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Carol Glass, 38, had been informed that her 12-year-old son. David, was dying and that "nature should be allowed to take its course" without medical intervention. She and about a dozen members of her family had gone to St Mary's Hospital in Portsmouth after learning that, against her wishes, doctors had been instructed by the chief executive of the Portsmouth NHS Trust to give David diamorphine, the hero-in-based painkiller that can

hasten death. Their efforts to resuscitate David during the altercation prevented him from dying. according to a statement from Mark Ashton, a consultant paediatrician. He said that in normal circumstances staff would have recommended that the family hold the child and calm him while he was allowed to die peacefully.

Instead, the family had pulled David from his bed to stimulate his breathing.



Carol Glass: concerned about future treatment

"Members of his family started blowing raspberries in his ears, banging his chest, and rubbing his arms and legs very vigorously despite being asked not to," Dr Ashton said. In my view this was extremely cruel. He should have been allowed to pass away peacefully and with dignity. It was not in his best interests simply to keep him alive."

However, Mr Justice Scott Baker was told in the High Court that far from dying, the boy survived and now plays with his sisters at home, laughs, smiles, responds to voices and light, and enjoys days out with his family. Mrs Glass, from Ports-

mouth, who has three other children, has accused the trust of unlawfully acting contrary to her wishes. She is seeking a legal declaration to ensure that her son will be entitled to resuscitation and life-saving treatment if he needs to be readmitted to hospital.

Richard Gordon, QC, for Mrs Glass, told the judge: "Clinicians at the trust came to the view as long ago as last July that it was in the child's best interests not to take active steps to keep him alive. The thrust of that view was that any life-saving treatment should be withheld and he should be allowed to die."

Two weeks ago a representa-tive of the Official Solicitor. who is representing the boy in the case, visited him at his home, "We met David in his bedroom, sitting on the lap of one of his sisters," the court was told in a statement on behalf of the Official Solicitor. "We said, 'Hello.' His eyes were wide open and it was noticeable his head turned to the sound of voices."

cephalus - water on the brain - which left him with blindness, spastic quadriplegia and severe learning difficulties. His mother describes his health as



David Glass, while profoundly disabled, is said to play with his sisters, laugh, smile, respond to voices and enjoy days out with his family

has been admitted several times to St Mary's throughout his life but is now being cared for at home with the help of community services.

Mr Gordon said that he was readmitted last July to a local David was born with hydro-ephalus — water on the brain cause of breathing difficulties and spent 23 days on artificial ventilation before he was fit enough to be discharged. There had been subsequent regood and says be can eat and admissions and during one of drink without a nasal rube. He these the question had been raised about whether resuscitation should be provided. Mrs Glass had insisted that it should.

The fracas with the boy's family — the subject of a sepa-rate criminal case — had occurred in October, the day after staff had been instructed to prescribe diamorphine.

Mr Gordon said that because of the breakdown between the family and St Mary's Hospital, David would not be treated by Port-

smouth NHS Trust again, but at a hospital in Southampton. He emphasised that whatev-

er the outcome of the case, it was "not an attempt to blame the doctors". Neither was it an attempt by Mrs Glass to "dictate to the clinicians whether and what treatment should be given to her son", or an attack

on clinical judgment. The object of the proceedings was "to ensure that the events that occurred in October cannot happen again to seek the approval of the

whenever or wherever the courts and continue to give child is to be treated". He said emergency treatment until such approval had been obthat Mrs Glass had a legitimate concern about what tained. Andrew Hockton, appearing for the Official Solicitor, told the court: "Our concern is would happen if a similar situation arose in another hospital

and that the problem should that the applicant [Mrs Glass] be sorted out before it did. appears to be trying to impose some kind of legal and proce-Mr Gordon told the judge that in all cases in which doc-tors sought to withdraw treatdural strait-jacket on an area of the law that has been left, ment and allow a child to die without the consent of parents. for good reason in many cases. hospitals should be required uncertain."

The hearing continues.

#### Teenager roused from coma by rugby triumph

By Simon de Bruxelles SOUTH WEST CORRESPONDENT

A TEENAGE rugby player who had been in a coma for six months reached out and grabbed a trophy that his team-mates brought to his hos-

pital bedside. Tom Bendali, 19, had shown little progress since being in-jured in a hit-and-run road accident, but when three friends showed him the cup that his team had won, the front-row forward raised his arms for the first time and took hold of the handle.

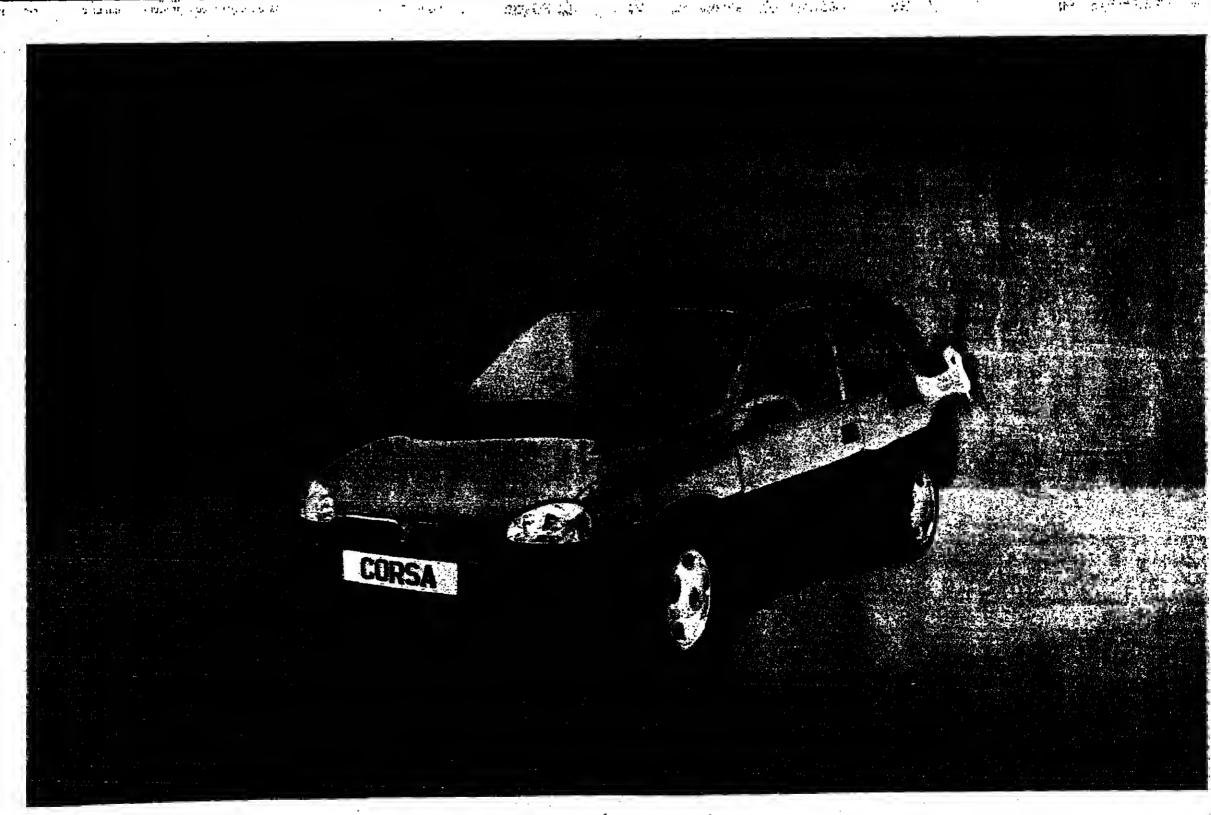
His parents. Haydn and Pam Bendall from Lydney. Gloucestershire, said that his condition had since improved greatly. "It was wonderful to see him finally starting to react to things. He grabbed hold of it well and I reckon he could have lifted it up on his own, Mrs Bendall said.

Her son's neck was broken in the accident last October. He spent three weeks at Frenchay Hospital in Bristol before being transferred to Gloucester Royal Hospital. Although he opened his eyes a week later, he had been motionless and unresponsive since, and doctors said that he

could take years to recover. Last week Lydney Colts, the under-19s side he played for, won the Gloucestershire County Cup by beating Cheltenham Colts 13-12. The following day. Mr Bendali's team-mates Mark Kiely, John Lewis and Lee Johnson took the cup with

them on their weekly visit. Mr Kiely, 19, said that he was speechless when his bedridden friend grabbed the cup. "Before the game we said we would win it for Tom because he was one of the main players in the team," he said. "It just shows how much his rugby meant to him."

Joe Willison, the manager of the hospital's head injury unit. said: "It's a gradual stage-bystage process, but he is making good progress."



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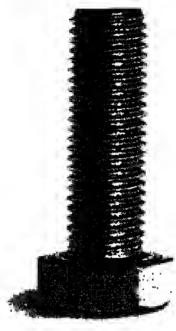


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# The scorpions in new Labour's bottle

هكذا من الأصل

Philip Webster on a biography which shows how Mandelson's feud with Brown left Blair despairing

TONY BLAIR questioned the long-established assumption that he would one day serve under Gordon Brown several months before the death of John Smith in May 1994, it

ENDAY APRIL 22 Mg

emerged last night. In his book Mandelson: The Biography, published yester-day. Donald Macintyre writes of a Sunday morning walk in the park by Mr Blair and Mr Mandelson around the turn of 1994 which would take on unexpected significance a few months later after the sudden death of Mr Smith.

He says: "For the first time Mandelson was left with the impression that Blair was hintine that the trio's unwrinen assumption of Brown's primacy could not be taken for granted. It was almost as if he was putting down a marker with the man who, it was still widely assumed, would be Brown's principal campaign strategist if and when the moment

The still-disputed role played by Mr Mandelson in the leadership election later that year led to the rift in his long friendship with Mr Brown, whose friends have never been convinced that Mr Mandelson was not pushing Mr Blair's cause with the press while privately trying to stay in both camps.

The disclosure of Mr Blair's

apparent decision not to defer to Mr Brown is yet another twist in the story of the complicated relacionship of the three men who founded new La-

The events were to lead to the "titanic feud" - as Mr

Peter Mandelson prepared

the ground for a Labour gov-

emment under Tony Blair to

go to war when he helped to

draft the new Clause 4, the

blography discloses. In March 1995, soon after Mr

Blair's announcement that

he was scrapping the old

toughened up the docu-

ment that was to enshrine.

A late draft that reached

Labour to the "peaceful res-

olution of conflict". Mr Man-

Mandelson committed

new Labour's values. ...

Fears over Mandelson and Brown

# Blair aims to heal top aides' rift

The Times headline of May 11, 1996 that angered Blair Blair put it in a letter to Mr Mandelson - between Mr Brown and Mr Mandelson in 1996 that the Labour leader

feared could hit their election chances. It was ultimately blamed for the disclosure before Christmas last year of Mr Mandelson's £373,000 loan from Geoffrey Robinson, which resulted in both of them leaving the Government. The Mandelson biography

tells graphically of the "despair" caused to Mr Blair by the battle between his friends. But it reveals that he warned Mr Mandelson that if the "Greek tragedy" went on he would allow him to carry out his apparent threat to resign as Labour's election manager and as a member of the Blair-

On Thursday May 9, 1996. the book reveals, Mr Mandelson walked out of a strategy meeting after another policy disagreement with Mr Brown in which he felt Mr Blair had

delson scrawled in the mar-

gin for Mr Blair's benefit:

"Won't a Blair government

Instead he proposed:

"We are committed to the

defence and security of the British people and to co-op-

erating in European and in-ternational (UN and Com-

monwealth) institutions to secure peace, freedom, de-

mocracy, economic securi-ty and environmental pro-

tection for all peoples of the world." It was accepted al-

most verbatim.

ever go to war?"

WAR INSTEAD OF PEACE

sided against him. As he went off for a weekend in Prague Mr Mandelson wrote to Mr Blair saying that he was sorry the meeting ended as it had but "I think you and I have reached the end of the road".

The last straw for Mr Blair was a lead story in The Times on Saturday, May 11 telling of his efforts to heal a rift between Mr Mandelson and Mr Brown. It led Mr Blair's team to think that Mr Mandelson was the prime source.

in fact the story had been prepared over the previous ten days, but Mr Blair was not to know that.

Angry and upset, he wrote to Mr Mandelson saying that he and Mr Brown seemed "more desirous of victory over each other than of trying to make it work". He added: "We are not players in some Greek tragedy . . . Have you any conception of how despairing it is for me when the two people that have been closest to me for more than a decade, and who in their different ways are the most brilliant minds of their generation, will not lay aside personal animosity and help me win."

Mr Blair is reported as repeating: "Why, oh why can't my two best people get on with each other?"

But when Mr Mandelson wrote back to Mr Blair he quoted Michael Wills, a friend of both him and Brown, as saying Mr Brown was "determined to kill me before I de-

stroy him". Mr Wills was reported as telling a friend that the two politicians were "like scorpions in a bottle; only one of them will crawl out alive".



# 'You are always part of the family'

TONY and Cherie Blair invited Peter Mandelson and his partner Reinaldo Avila da Silva to stay at Chequers on the night he resigned from the Cabinet over his loan from Ge-offrey Rohinson, the Paymaster General.

In an insight into the Blairs' matter-of-fact attitude to Mr Mandelson's sexuality, the hiography describes how Mrs Blair telephoned him from Chequers shortly after he had announced his departure from government to say that be would "always be part of

the family". She asked him where he was going to be later. He replied that he would he at home. That would not do, she said. "He must come down to Chequers in the evening her children would be there, aloog with her mother Gale. It would be a family occasion." Mr Blair then came on

the line. "We want you to be the party, selling the house has played down his memberwith us." And of course he should bring with him Avila.

The book records: "Which that evening, driving in a borrowed car up to Buckingham-shire, Mandelson did, They had a drink, a family supper - with Mandelsoo, but not Blair, breaking off to watch his resignation interviews on the television news - stayed the night and returned to London around noon,"

Mr Blair had already written out for Mr Mandelson advice on his career. In it he included rebuilding a base in that had caused him all the trouble, and being open about his relationship.

Other disclosures include ☐ Quite apart from loaning him the money, Mr Robinson helped Mr Mandelson to find his property, "Together, driv-en by Robinson's chauffeur, they set out househunting ... they found the narrow, fourstorey Georgian house in Northumberland Place ... Mandelson bad fouod a Lon-

ship of the Young Communist League, the book says that he was active in it from February 1971 to September 1972, regularly selling the Morning Star. A friend at the time says " you learn how to manipulate and be Machiavellian",

☐ As a young man he acknowledged that he was a "bougeois at heart". Writing to a friend in 1973 from a mission in Tanzania he said: "At times I have felt that I am losdon home be wholeheartedly liked."

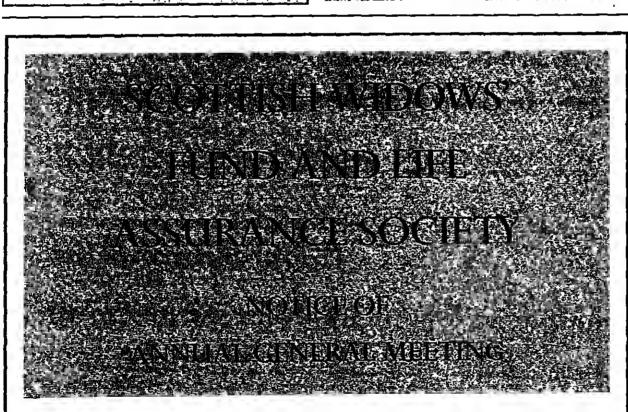
☐ Although Mr Mandelson ing a socialist grip on myself ... don't let this frankness go beyond your eyes."

Dear Tony...

Tony Blair of May 9, 1996 af-

slights from Gordon Brown: "I am very sorry that your meeting ended as u did, but I think we have to recognise that you and I have reached the end of the road. I am more than willing to carry on the general election planning if you wish — although we'll reach the same brick wall on that too, eventually — and i will be very sorry not to play my day-to-day role here in Milibank ... I hope you don't think that amour propre is the root of my problem. I have long gone beyond that. But I felt greatly let down by you this morning, and embarrassed, I do not want to be in that position again. Needless to say. I will always be available to you in any circumstance to help and advise. Operationally, though, I think we have reached the glass ceiling." Love as ever. Peter

Mr Blair replied that Brown and Mandelson seemed "more desirous of victory over each other than of trying to make it work". He could not tolerate walkouts or. effectively accusing Mr Mandelson, "irresponsible" stories in The Times. We are not play-ers in some Greek tragedy. We have one overriding responsibility to deliver an election victory, and though it, might seem pious, it is just not fair to all those people who really want such a victory and are working for it, to be casualities of some titanic but ultimately irrelevant personality fend... Have you any concep-tion of how despairing it is for me when the two people who have been closest to me for more than a decade, and who in different ways are the most brilliant minds of their generation will not lay aside personal animosity and help me win?



Notice is hereby given that the 185th Annual General Meeting of the members of the Society will be held within The Fintry Auditorium, Edinburgh International Conference Centre, The Exchange, Edinburgh, EH3 8EE oo Tuesday 4 May 1999 at 11.30am for the following purposes:

- To consider the Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 1998 and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors.
- To elect or re-elect Directors.
- To fix the remuneration of Directors.
- To re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as Auditors.
- To authorise the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors for the
- To transact any other ordinary business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

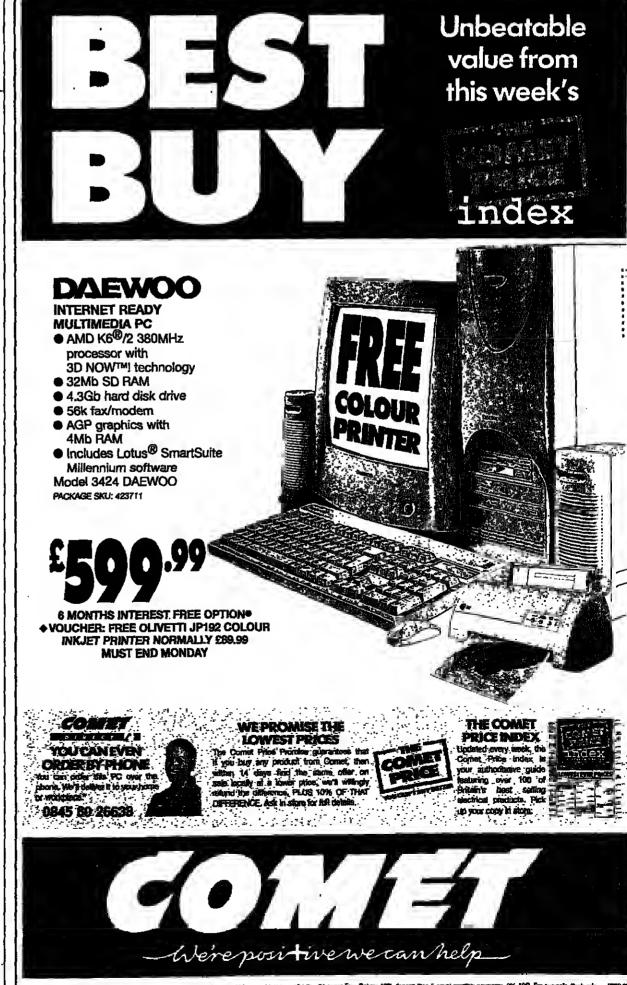
A member is ectitled to appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him or her. A proxy need oot also be a member of the Society. Proxy forms can be obtained by application to the Company Secretary. To be effective, proxies (and the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed, or a notarially certified copy of that power of authority) must reach the Society's principal office not less than two clear working days before the time for holding the Meeting. Members or proxies who intend to be present at the Meeting should bring with them details of their policy oumbers or in the case of proxies the policy numbers in respect of which they have been appointed proxy, and in all cases some means of identification. Registration will commeoce at 11.00am. Copies of the Society's Report and Accounts for 1998 may be obtained in advance by written application to the Company Secretary.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

lain A Reid LLB CA Company Secretary 15 Dalkeith Road, Ediaburgh EH16 5BU

8 April 1999

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The political memoir of the year



Which Tory politician's neuroses are more interesting than Hague's 'genial vacuity?"

Which Tory superpatriot doesn't give a sod?

Find out next week in **The Times** 

# Dewar eyes a full house

Labour's Scottish leader in waiting

is on a winning streak - with

bingo-goers, writes Jason Allardyce

THE Secretary of State for Scotland looks as if he has just committed a most terrible deed. Donald Dewar is ashenfaced and his big hands are covered in a blood-red liquid

- but he has something more

serious than murder in mind.

Armed with a felt pen which is running all over the place. the man most likely to emerge as leader of Scotland's first parliament in 300 years is lost in a game of bingo in one of Glasgow's most deprived communities. Bingo is the new religion in Possilpark, where neon-lit. licensed hangars attract a following bigger than any local

churches can hope for. Mr Dewar is just one number short of a full house and the prospect of winning £100. Of course, the Scottish Labour leader would be far 100 much of a gentleman 10 take the money in a community blighted by drugs, high unemployment and poverty. He is here to demonstrate to ordinary Scots that his "conversation with Scotland", as the La-

bour Party has dubbed his

presidential-style 2,000-mile campaign around the country. is as relevant to a workingclass audience as it is to the middle-income voters who propelled the party to power in

Donald Dewar is a rather awkward premier-in-waiting. He does not normally go in for media stunts like yesterday's. which also involved him calling the bingo numbers, with a little help from Mo Mowlam. the Northern Ireland Secretary. Until a few months ago, he even resisted the efforts of Labour imagemakers to convince him that his 20-year-old overcoat had to go, that his heavy, horn-rimmed glasses should be replaced and that crisp shirts and snappy ties must become de rigeur.

As Scottish Secretary of State after the general election. he was even uneasy about the notion of being driven around by someone else in a government Rover - he only grudgingly accepted that it was part

Yesierday, on "Donald De-



Donald Dewar, Mo Mowlam and local candidate Patricia Ferguson in Possil

war's Holyrood Express", Labour's Scottish battlebus, he still wasn't wearing a belt, and over lunch he insisted on picking at a plate of chips with his fingers. He may be two weeks away from governing Scot-land but Donald Dewar is still Donald Dewar. While such characteristics make this man of the stilted soundbite appear rather odd, they also make

him enormously popular, and

have led him to be dubbed father of the Scottish nation. At the bingo in Possil, a betier focus group than most of those which preoccupy the Labour Party, it was Mr Dewar's

peculiar and sombre calling — Three-seven, thirty seven: very sinister — which drew the biggest cheers from the audience of 400 people. As he prepares for power. Mr Dewar. who is variously dubbed "The

Gannet" on account of his voracious appetite and "The Stork" on account of his gangly appearance, is clearly beginning to enjoy a campaign

that is going his way.

Donald Dewar allows himself a smile. "t really do think it's coming our way," he says. "and it's a happy campaign for that reason."

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HALF YOUR MONEY BACK? THAT'LL BE THE NO DAEWOOVALUE



# English exiles who are backing SNP

By GILLIAN HARRIS, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THIRTEEN years after she sent the country and came moved from the East End of London to the North East of Scotland, Dot Jessiman met a politician at a party who asked her if she had ever considered joining the SNP.

When she pointed out that she was English, he laughed and replied: What's that got to do with anything?

Mrs Jessiman says il was that conversation with the late Allan Macartney, the Scottish National Party's former deputy leader, which convinced her to sign up. She now heads New Scots for Independence, a group whose 500 members are not Scottish but back SNP policies, in-cluding independence. The overwbelming majority are English but some are from France, Ghana. Germany. India and Belgium.

The devotion of the growing band of Englishmen and women to the SNP has caused surprise in some quarters. Af-

ter all they are effectively voting to turn a part of the dom into a foreign country. But the activists accept that if Scotland votes for independborder into ence, they will be foreigners in the place call

"That doesn't bother me at all," said David Ashby, 46, a recent SNP recruit from Swindon in Wiltshire. "I cross a border when I go to France on holiday. Why should it bother me to cross a border back into England?"

Mr Ashby and his wife Carole moved to Cumbernauld 16 years ago. They joined the party this month after meeting their SNP candidate, Andrew Wilson, who introduced them to Alex Salmond, SNP leader. We asked ourselves what party would really repre-

"We are not placard-waying activists but it is frightening how ignorant people in England are about what is going on in Scotland. Peo-

to the conclusion it was the

SNP," Mr Ashby, who

works in an electrical engi-

neering firm, said.

ple down south do not seem to realise that Scotland is already a separate country and for people in England to turn around and say Scotland needs England, when il does not, is just ridiculous." They insist that they have never experienced anti-English racism. The only racism was in London when t tried to pay for something with a Scottish pound note and got some snide remark about Jocks, Mr Asbby said.

He wants to become in volved in the fight for seats in the Holyrood parliament "It is all very well sitting around moaning and groaning but this is a chance to change things and I think we

May 6. Once

they come here

they can see the

injustice of being

have a duty to do what we can." 6 Why Mrs Jessiman, 63, who has lived should it band in Aberdeenshire since bother me believes that a record to cross a number of English people in Scotland will vote SNP on

England?? dictated to from Westminster, they remember experi-

ments carried out in Scotland like the poll tax and they want to change all that," she said. Mrs Jessiman, who is standing as an SNP list candidate in North East Scotland, was a Labour supporter before she moved to Scotland, A former GLC housing officer, she left her family in Brent-to live in a remote croft four miles from the nearest village. "The change could not have been

greater," she said.

#### QUOTE of the day

Donald Dower, the Scot-ush Labour leader, on al-most winning a garne of bingo in Glasgow

I was one number short of a full house?

#### today's AGENDA

Gordon Brown will speak in Glasgow. The Tories will focus on tourism, while the SNP will discuss justice. Jim Wallace of the Lib Dems visits a healthy eating initiative for young mothers in Pilton, Edinburgh

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# SDAY APRIL 22 199

# Sh exiles Gang tortured Gang SNP mentally ill girl to death'

A GANG of three teenage girls and two young men were said yesterday to have systematically tortured a "generous and vulnerable" teenager to death over six days.

At Easter last year Angela Pearce. 18. a schizophrenic. was lured to a flat to be robbed but the gang decided to keep her captive and subjected her to horrendous assaults. Eventually they agreed that she should not live to tell the tale, Leeds Crown Court was sold. She was suffocated with a

belt and plastic bag and dumped in a cupboard. Her body was later buried in a shallow grave in a disused cem-

etery. Malcolm Swift. QC. for the prosecution, said that at one stage her attackers, three girls aged 16, 17, and 19, and two men aged 17 and 21, turned up a hi-fi to drown her cries of pain while they laughed and joked.

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They had beaten her with a steam iron and snooker cues. Her hair was burnt off and cig-



Angela Pearce said to have been lured to flat by gang

Three teenage girls and two young men are

accused of murder, reports

Paul Wilkinson arettes were stubbed out on

her body. Claire Latif, now 20, her sister Meina. 18. Mark Francom. 22, Christopher Bevis, 18, and a 17-year-old girl identified only as "H" for legal reasons, deny murder between April 7 and 15 last year. The five, from

Leeds, also deny false impris-

onment and grievous bodily

harm with intent. Claire Latif and "H" also deny robbery. Mr Swift said that the gang lured Miss Pearce, who wore a pendant and rings and had £95 in her purse, to a tower block. "The females knew Angela was not normal and decided to take her to their flat to get her drunk and to abuse her. Each of the defendants played a part and their ferocity was such that each formed the view that Angela couldn't be al-

lowed and wouldn't be al-

lowed to leave alive," he said. First her rings were forcibly removed. "'H' then got an electric iron and struck her in the face with considerable force," Mr Swift said. She was kicked and punched and one witness. who came and went to the house over the following days. described her eyes as swollen to the size of tennis balls. There was blood everywhere. On Good Friday she pleadgave her disinfectant. Mr Swift said: "Then 'H' picked up a snooker cue and swung it hard at Angela's head. Meina and 'H' stubbed out cigarettes on her face to the amusement of Claire and others." On Easter Saturday the viol-ence continued. "'H' amused

ed for water but "H" instead

مُكذا من الأصل

herself by spraying hairspray over Angela's hair and setting fire to the spray in the nature of a flamethrower. Everyone laughed, so 'H' did it again." Mr Swift said. "Francom pulled Angela to her feet to punch her full in the face and she fell to the floor. He decided to urinate over her."

On Easter Sunday she was locked in the kitchen cupboard, where she was regularly beaten. The next day Meina cut off her hair and the following day 'H' put a plastic bag over her head and a belt round her neck and suffocated her.

On April 16 the two males buried the body in the old Mahgate Cemetery in Leeds. The trial continues.



Helen Golesworthy with a jungle nymph from Indonesia at the opening vesterday of London Zoo's new building

#### Zoo's web captures animal magic

By NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

LOCUSTS crawl over a batflies fly free. Not far away. golden lion tamarin monkeys. tarantulas and anteaters roam in a replica rainforest to the sound of birds and rain. Elsewhere, upside-down jelly fish

gently move through seawater. This is the Web of Life, a series of 65 live-animal exhibits and London Zoo's first new building since the children's zoo opened four years ago. It has been designed to astonish the visitor with the complexity of nature and its myriad habitats.

Dr Jo Gipps, director of Lon-don Zoo, said yesterday at the launch: "All its animals have been chosen to highlight the variety of living organisms on Earth and the range of ecosys-tems they inhabit." The £4 million project is housed in a building inspired by antheaps. Termites sink boreholes to cool homes and the Web of Life centre has geothermal cooling from a borehole. Tall chimneys simulate those used by termites for ventilation.

Leading article, page 25

## Old pews promote 'passive' worship

KOSOVO AND BALKAN CRISIS

PLEASE ACT NOW

It's a month since the conflict in Kosovo escalated and an ever growing number of refugees desperately need emergency sistance, food, sheker and

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CHURCH pews can be "uncomfortable, rigid and threelcoming" and remind worshippers of fendal society, according to a Church of Scotland report published today (Ruth Gledhill writes).

The pews can contribute to "passive" worship and, in some cases, should be removed entirely, the report says. "Many buildings were designed ur adapted to conform to a pattern of church life and worship from which we have now largely moved un," it claims.

The report, by the church's committee un artistic matters. says that althuugh pews can be historically and aesthetical-

no longer ideal for a "living church": While there might be a "cosiness" about sitting in a well-populated pew, in an empty church they can make people sit apart.

The report says that while pews should be removed from some churches, in others they are still appropriate.

The Rev Graham Leitch, minister of Barclay Church, Edinburgh, which has recently removed half of its pews as part of a £350,000 renovation. said: "It increases the flexibility of the space and has been enormously successful already. We have had a 95 per cent positive response."











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**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

Refugee

camp 'hit

by Nato'

Majino Naselje: Four peo-ple were kitted and 20 injured in a Serb refugee camp during Nato air raids, according to local po-lice and witnesses. At least

two devices were reported

to have hit the camp, near

Dakovica in Kosovo, which

housed more than 200 Serb

refugees who fled Croatia in 1995. The camp, former-

ly an agricultural centre.

was hit at about 3am. A wit-

ness said: "Most of the peo-

ple were sleeping. Every-

thing happened in several seconds, nobody had time to escape." (AFP)

£13m for KLA

A first gift of more than

£13 million has been prom-

ised to the Kosovo Libera-

tion Army by Bujar Bukoshi, who controls the

finances of the moderate

Ibrahim Rugova's Kosovo Democraric League,

UN pessimism

Bangkok: Some Kosovan

refugees may never return

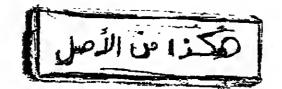
home, Brunson McKinley.

head of the UN's Interna-

tional Organisation for Mi-

gration, said. Mr McKinley.

in Thailand for a confer-



# Britain warns of Serb coup in Montenegro

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN yesierday gave a warning that President Milosevic was about to stage a coup in Montenegro, as confronta-tions between the Yugoslav Army and the Montenegrin police raised fears of an imminent showdown.

SDAY APRIL 22 19/16

The Hities

George Robertson, Defence Secretary, said Britain re-mained vigilant and gravely concerned about Mr Milosevic's intentions towards Monienegro. We believe he may be about to undermine the position of Milo Djukanovic, the democratically elected President of that country. After the killing of six Albanians inside Montenegro by Yugoslav troops — which Bel-grade disputes — the Montenegrin Government demanded the punishment of those responsible. It also threatened to dismanile a military checkpoint blocking the border with Croatia after a Yugoslav Army incursion into the demilitarised Prevlaka peninsula on

the Adriatic on Tuesday. "The block will not last long because we will clear it." Dra-gisa Burzan, the deputy Prime Minister. said. He gave a warning that the army was trying to become a "parallel authority". "By doing this, they

day after President Djukanovic rejected Belgrade's demand to put his loyalist police force under army command. Mr Burzan denounced the killing of the Kosovan refugees as a crime against humanity and called for the perpetraiors to be tried for war crimes. The Pentagon confirmed that the army has begun to drive Al-banian refugees who escaped

Montenegro.

are close to the line.

assault on Kosovo.

Nato yesterday repeated its warning that it was determined to stop any extension of the conflict to other countries and Mr Robertson accused Mr Milosevic of trying to destabilise the Balkans, There is a monstrous evil in our continent," he said before leaving for Washington. "The events in Kosovo have brought to light some of the worst. most depraved aspects of humanity, genocide, ethnic cleansing, rape and the virtual decap-

from Kosovo out of villages in

ination of Kosovo Albanian society. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said on a sat-ellite link from Skopje, Mace-donia, that he believed that a ground war would be inevitable. Britain has repeatedly ruled out the use of ground troops, but said yesterday that more troops were being sent to Macedonia to be deployed as part of a peacekeeping force in Kosovo. Mr Robertson, underlining his careful choice of

words, said only that the pos-

ition on a "full-scale opposed

invasion" remained as before.



Three Apaches among a group of combat helicopters touching down in southern Italy en route to Albania yesterday.

FROM SAM KILEY IN KRUME. NORTHERN ALBANIA

THE first American Apache "tank killer" belicopters ar-rived in Albania yesterday for a high-risk deployment in Kosovo that will test the resolve of Nato's leaders and the American public over the level of casualties they consid-

er acceptable in the Balkans. Intelligence sources have fold The Times that the Apaches, armed with Hellfire missiles and heavy cannon. will be far more vulnerable to shoulder-launched missiles and anti-aircraft artillery than the high-flying jets that There are definitely going First Apaches fly in to Albania

to be casualties. Pilots are going to get shot down in Kosovo, said one Western intelligence agent who has worked closely with the Kosovo Liberation Army.

Several intelligence agen-cies have reported to Nato that the ability of Slobodan Milosevic's air defences against jets to function properly has been badly eroded by airstrikes. But the missiles themselves remain intact.

unpredictable weather on sorties against Serb units. Paddy Ashdown, the Liber-

This will force the Apaches to

fly low and fast through

treacherous mountains and

al Democrat leader, said in Albania on Monday: God forbid that pilots should be shot down, but in these conditions ooe has to be prepared to accept that some probably will

From the Serb perspective.

however, the Apaches that arrived yesterday, the first of 48, are a major threat to infantry and armoured units which have taken to travelling by tractor and trailer, posing as refugees. Since the accidental bombing of a refugee column last week. Nato pilots have been reluctant to risk hitting more civilians. But the Apaches, which are equipped with night vision and other sophis-

EMRIO CARICETO

to be fooled by Serb camouflage.
The belicopters, which will be based a few minutes from the border, will also be able to react more quickly to KLA and Nato special forces calls

ticated features are less likely

ence, likened their plight to that of the Kurds. (Reuters) Navy build-up

Schastopol: A missile cruis-er led 30 Russian warships from this Ukrainian port for a ten-day exercise. Ad-miral Viktor Kravchenko. of the Russian Navy, said the exercises were not related to the Kosovo war. (AP)

Jets kill guard

Miami: Two FI8 fighter jets from the aircraft carrier USS John F. Kennedy. on a Kosovo training mission off Puerto Rico, missed their target, killing a civilian guard and wounding four others who were directing the exercise.

# The restless and resentful ally

MONTENEGRO was the smallest and poorest of the republics that made up the former Yugoslavia, and the only one to stay with Serbia when the others broke away in 1992 (Michael Binyon writes). It has become increasingly restless at Belgrade's political and economic domination and resentful of the isolation caused by the sanctions on Yugoslavia. President Djukanovic came to power on an anti-Milosevic platform and a promise to conduct a more independent foreign and economic policy. Montenegro has separate trade agreements

the Serbian Orthodox Church. A sixth the size of Serbia and tains and lush valleys is ethnicaltions between them are tense. Army has increasingly become in 1941 Italien troops occur. Belgrade's instrument to enpled parts of Montenegro, but by slone its will on the tention.



British arms and equipment with Italy and Albania. In 1993 it controlled most of it. The Monteneeding were among the tough-

dissociated itself, in effect, from est of Tito's Partisans. Since Nato's action began with a population of 540,000, - Montanegro has taken in at this land of spectacular mount. Jeest 70,000 Kosovan refugees, more per head of populaly divided between Serbs, Mon- anonthan any of the scinounding tenegrins and Albanians. Rela-countries. The Muscellay-2nd

#### Famed troops to stand guard at Tirana airport. They were said to have

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

SEVEN hundred paratroops from the famed US 82nd Airborne Division have arrived in Albania. Their task is to guard Apache anti-tank helicopters, the first of which finally arrived in Tirana last night. 17 days after Nato gave the go-ahead for their deployment.

The arrival of the paratroop battalion from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, was a surprise that emphasised the makeshift quality of the Nato huildup. They were chosen because help was needed in a hurry and the 82nd Airborne is a rapid-response unit.

The Apaches and their guards are expected to be based close to the Kosovo border at a military airfield near Lezhë. The paratroops could quickly find themselves in a fight if Serb forces cross the border to attack. If so, the Serbs will be up against a unit with a distinguished history that be-gan in the First World War and continued through the D-Day landings.

Repeated delays in moving the Apaches from Germany to Albania have been blamed on rain, mud and overcrowding

infuriated General Wesley Clark, Nato's senior military commander, and others in the high command. Even now, it could be several days before the Apaches are ready to attack Serb tanks.

Captain Mark Arden, an Apache pilot who briefed reporters in Tirana, said that the helicopters would acquit themselves well, despite the threat of ground fire,

The Serbs have been using their armour to great effect on woman and children in Kosovo," he said. "The tide is about to turn."

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# TV soaps fall victim to 'flying circus'

FROM TOM WALKER IN BELGRADE

IT WAS an odd wake, the media gathering on the freshly mown grass as Goran Matic. frontman for the left in Yugoslavia, read the eulogy on the still-smoking and blackened skeleton behind him.

Reaching for descriptions to express this latest Nato outrage, he opted for a crowd pleaser; how else could you explain what was going on other than Monty Python's Flying

Mr Matic, Minister without Portfolio, had just become minister without building. Thehulk lying in the park beside the Sava and Danube rivers was none other than the Socialist Party headquarters of President Milosevic, struck by a Nato Tomahawk yester-

day morning.

That was the eighth floor, above, on Floor 19, another missile had crashed into the offices of TV Pink and, further towards the heavens on Floor 23, yet another had scored a direct hit on Mr Milosevic's daughter's private radio and television station, Kosava.

If it was the dead parrot sketch to which the youthful

Mr Matic referred, then this was definitely an ex-building. No longer would there be any mysterious Socialist cabals. such as those that brought Mr Milosevic to power; the former communist headquarters of Tito was hated by many; but nor would there be any more episodes of The Simpsons or the Brazilian soap opera Esmerelda, for which it was

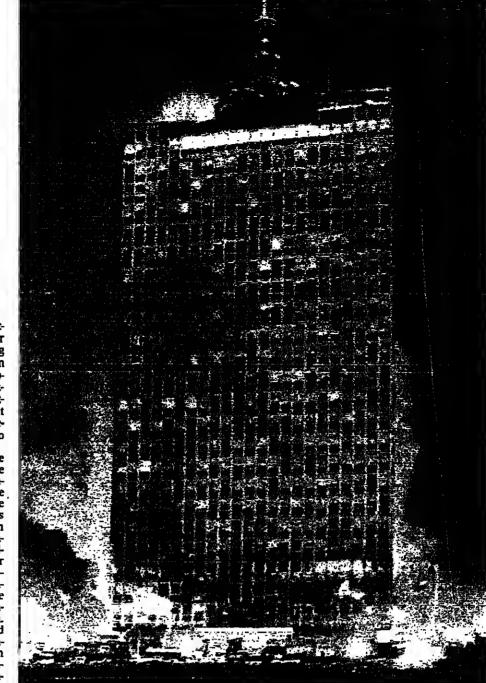
sevic's party machine so directly, Nato had scored another own goal. "This building brought the people American movies and Western pro-grammes," protested Mr Mat-ic, who claimed four broadcasters were based in the tower. "It seems the freedom of the media is more dangerous to Nato than the military."
As usual after Nato's more

spectacular strikes, there were confusing accounts of the damage. As the first pictures of the flames were broadcast on the few channels left, there was talk of 30 people having been trapped inside. Later Mr Matic made no mention of casualties, and it seemed the tower had probably been empty—
this again leading to speculation that Nato gives advance
warning of targets where "collateral damage" could be high.
Mr Milosevic was elected

head of the then Serbian Communist Party at the tower in 1986, and his wife, Mira Markovic, has always been associated with TV Pink. Marija, their daughter, recently expanded Kosava's youth radio business into television. On other floors were many of the "exportcronies of the regime grew fat. Robert Nemeck, Pink's pro-

gramme director, promised the station would return. Of Esmerelda, watched by 40 per cent of the nation, he said: They never saw the final episode because of the bombs." in the park, gardners began

clearing away rubble and pieces of missile casing — the de-bris of Nato's flying circus.



Direct hit: the building coutaining Slobodan Milosovic's party headquarters

## It's time Nato gave its rhetoric a reality check

INTERNATIONAL mits are invariably a time for fudge. But Nato leaders, meeting in Washington this weekend for the alliance's 50th anniversary, owe their citizens candour. There is a worrying gap between rhetoric and reality.

To listen to the daily brief-

**BALKANS WAR** 

ings, you would think that everything is going according to plan, bar a little bad weather. But that is obviously non-sense. The Nato military operation is fully justified, but it was started in a muddled and confused way. Leaders underestimated the Serbian determination to expel the Kosovar Afbanians in the most horrible imaginable way and overestimated the impact of

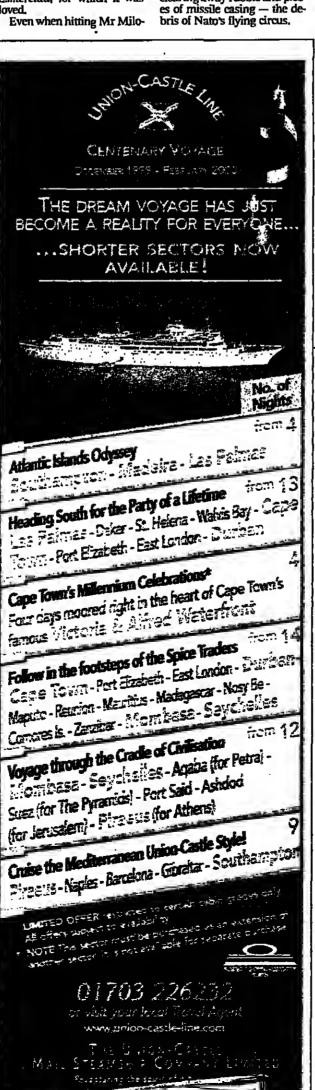
The air campaign has, admittedly, seriously damaged the military capability of Serbia. But it has failed to prevent "ethnic cleansing". Indeed, the plight of the refu-gees on the borders of Kosovo is now desperate. Means and ends are out of kilter.

That does not mean that the operation is wrong. Rather, Nato leaders should admit publicly what they are conced-ing in private, that a change of gear is now needed. The plan is clear: intensify air attacks (as is now happening) and prepare for the deployment of ground troops to permit the safe return of refu-While Nato leaders agree

that "the difficulties of a landforce invasion of Kosovo against an undegraded Serb military machine are formidable", this leaves open the option of deploying troops when such "degradation" has occurred, when the risk of heavy casualties has been reduced. When this might hap-pen has been left deliberately lic opposition now. However, the issue has to be faced openly if the public is to be per-That needs to be coupled

with a realistic statement of war aims. Devouncing President Milosevic as another Hitler achieves nothing except to solidify his support. Nato is not likely to agree a negotiated deal with him. and his regime will probably remain in power for some time, just as Saddam Hus-sein's has. It is no part of Nato war aims to oust him or to invade Serbia. So a Natorun Kosovo will have to co-exist with an unfriendly, if not actively hostile, Serbia.

Kosovo has shown that Europe is still militarily dependent ou the United States Whatever happens within Kosovo itself, Europe needs even more urgently than before to improve its own capabilities. Frankness about both ends and means would be the best outcome in Wash-



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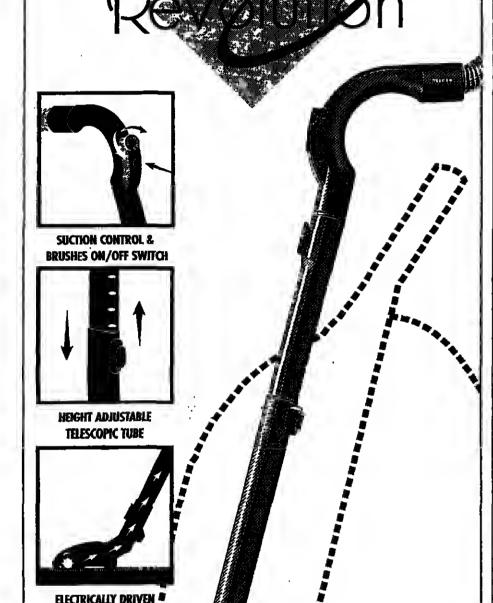
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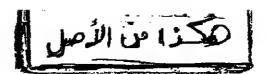


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#### BALKANS WAR: STRATEGY



Partly Ashdown talks to ethnic Albanian refugees during his visit to the Brazde camp in Macedonia yesterday

# U moves to throttle Serbia's fuel supply

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

THE European Union agreed yesterday on a move to choke off the fuel supplies that are flowing into Serbia.

The planned embargo, however, would remain voluntary for Serbia's neighbours and it would do little to stop deliveries through Montenegro.

The measure, to be made law by EU foreign ministers next week, will impose an embargo on all shipments of petroleum products from EU member states except supplies

for humanitarian purposes. Serbia's bigger neighbours. Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria, will then be put under diplomatic pressure to join the embargo. "As applicant memhers of the EU, they are required to join in our regula-tions," a spokesman for Ger-

tions," a spokesman for Germany, the present holder of the EU presidency, said.

The move was proposed by France as a legally acceptable way of cutting off the fuel imports that are still reaching Sarbia. The United States and Serbia. The United States and several other Nato members have been pushing for a full embargo that would be enforced by military means, in-

cluding a naval blockade. France, Italy, Greece and other Nato states are opposing a Nato embargo because no United Nations authority ex-

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4000

ists for such an action. Washington says that an embargo is needed urgently to complement Nato's destruction of Serbian fuel stocks and its capacity to refine oil.

Nato says that it has already destroyed 70 per cent of Serbia's oil stocks and crippled all its refineries, and that the country's armed forces are suffering shortages. However, oil is still arriving by pipeline through Hungary and valuable refined products are entering in tanker lorries and by

The main entry point of refined fuel supplies, much need-

port of Bar, on the Adriatic coast of Montenegro, according to Nato officials.

The supplies are being delivered by tankers owned by companies registered in Panama and elsewhere. An Athensbased company confirmed this week that it had delivered more than 9,000 tonnes of diesel fuel through two tanker deliveries to Bari in the past

ten days. The Americans acknowledge that big political obsta-cles lie in the path of enforcing a blockade. Searching and turning back tankers on the

ed by the Serbian forces, is the a breach of international law and could strain relations with Nato allies and other states. The other alternative, of

bombing the docks at Bar, would risk further weakening Montenegro's fragile Govern-ment, which is struggling to stay neutral, even though, with Serbia, it is part of the Yugoslav Federation.

Hungary, which is a new member of Nato, said this week that it had "virtually halt-'ed" the flow of oil through its pipeline to Serbia; Bulgaria as-sured Nato yesterday that it would stop supplying the Belgrade authorities.
The EU is employing a car-

membership if the countries involved co-operate in the allies' campaign to halt Belgrade's offensive in Kosovo. The EU ambassadors agreed on the European embargo in the face of initial ob-

rot-and-stick approach to the

region, offering immediate aid

and promises of future moves

towards European Union

jections from Greece and Italy. The European Commission gave Hans van den Broek, its Commissioner for External Relations, authority to draw up the regulations without further formality once the foreign

ministers had given the meas-ure their approval.

# Blair leads MPs over the top in 'language crawl'

mocracy the dynamics flict are complex. "Mission creep" drags him forward iust as "con pushes him back. Then "attention drift" kicks in as the boredom factor descends.

And now comes a sideways vector. Yesterday at Prime Minister's Questions, "language crawl cmerged. Tuny Blair snuck in a oew word to describe when Nato might in-

vade Kosovo. Bit by bit the language changes. We have moved from a munth ago when an impressioo was given that ground troops could occupy Kosovo only by agreement. Later, we learnt that tea and cakes were no longer a precoodition: but entry must be

By last week, the keywords had become "permissive environment" - a sort of benign trespass. Naturally (we were



given to onderstand) one cooldn't rule out the occasional lone Serb sniper but no serious battle could be contemplated.

Yesterday the terms changed again. The new word is "undegraded". It was the Liberal Demo-

crats' Alan Beith (standing in for Paddy Ashduwn, escaped in the Balkans) who prised the new word from Mr Blair. Would be confirm, Beith asked, that attitudes to the use of ground troops had changed?

Weeell, implied Blair, troops could not go in, so long as the Serbs' military inrees were "undegraded". MPs and journalists performed several quick mental flips-flops as negatives cancelled each other out. Does

"we cannot go in if they are undegraded" mean we can go in if they are degraded? But the Serb machine has

indeed been degraded, hasn't it? So we can occupy? There were mutters and mental whirrings as this sunk in. Just as the boredom factor threatened attention drift, while compassion fatigue grew, language crawl has accelerated missinn creep ... all while Paddy was on politician flig He'll be furious.

Still, Labour's Ben Bradshaw enjoyed it. Mr Bradshaw is Tony Blair's most warlike young fan. Every time Blair says a word like "bomb" Bradshaw nods his head in theatrical assent, like a back-window nodding-dog on overdrive. Let us hope the PM never says "bomb",
"kill", "nuke", "exterminate"
and "zap" in the same sentence, nr Bradshaw's bead would nod right aff. Though the debonair and floppyhaired young Exeter MP bas seen service in the trenches of the BBC studios at White City, it is not immediately clear that the mod and brian nf the Albanian mountains would be his natural habitat. Gucci shoes slip in the snow.

istracted by head-nod, mission-creep and language-crawl, I almost missed the other themes of the afternoon. First came the European Uninn beef-ban, raised by Dr Ian Gibson (Labour, Narwich North). This provoked the Prime Minister into trading insults with the Opposition as in who was to blame. Mr Blair's attack oo the Tories received a more confident cheer from his back benches than bis attacks on the Serbs. You know where you are with

mad cow disease.

After BSE-rebuttal came deputy-bash. Blair and Hague bandied claims about which had the most useless second-in-command. Neither man's depoty (John Prescott or Peter Lilley) was visible. Hague said Blair's was slowwitted. (Hon Members: "Where is be?"): Blair said he'd rather have his than Hague's) (Hon Members: "Where is he?") whereupon Hague cried "He's there!" and Mr Lilley made a pantomime appearance from behind the Speaker's Chair (Hon Members: "Oooooh!"

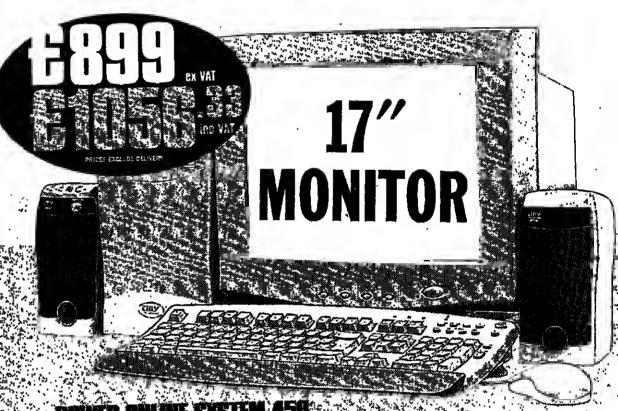
ABERDEEN ALJRINCHAM AYLESBURY

RELEAST

BOLTON

I don't know what effect these MPs will have on the Serbs, but by God they terrify

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# Where Nato's members stand

Gulf War, from which Belgium distanced itself, the campaign is winning strong backing from centreleft coalition. More than 1,000 service personnel deployed, along with four F16 fighters. Tradition of support for humanitarian causes means much is made of refugees arriving since Sunday. Public opinion: About 70 per cent favour air offensive; only 40 per cent back ground invasion. Implications: No significant political parties are opposing the operation, but it is bound to become a factor in general elec-

Nato and would back sending ground troops, but prefers continued bombing and favours using Apache helicopters. Has dozen CF18 jet fighters at Aviano with another six on way. About 650 military personnel in campaign. Public opinion: Government support - about 71 per cent now back airstrikes --- has risen steadily. Only 47 per cent favour sending ground troops. About 250,000 Serb-Canadians, plus as many of Slavic origin, are vociferously opposed. inflications: May lose credenCZECH REPUBLIC

Government stance: President Havel backs the airstrikes. Milos Zeman, the Prime Minister, praising the friendship between Czechs and Serbs, is sceptical, as is the Speaker, Vaclav Klaus. Public opinion: Against military involvement in Kosovo - only about a third of Czechs support Nato action unambiguously. Implications: Risk of an embarrassing exposure of the involve-

ment of the Czech arms industry.

Czech-manufactured anti-aircraft

radar systems are apparently

being used by the Yugoslavs. The

Kosovo Liberation Army has also

been buying from the Czechs.

DENMARK

Government stance: The Social Democrat-led Government has staunchly backed the air offensive, committing eight F16 fighters. Right-wing MPs unhappy that request to send submarine to Adriatic yet to be met. Public opinion: Polls and letters

to newspapers indicate solid support. In one poll, 65 per cent in favour of airstrikes and 46 per cent thought ground troops should be deployed. implications: Professional soldiers and right-wing parties think a government plan to cut defence

had been proposed.

still backed by 70 per cent. dent Chirac and Lionel Jospin. Prime Minister, boosted, but fears of repercussions for Euspending by 2002 is now likely to rope, and of provoking Russia. be distinctly less stringent than

Government stance: Paris firmly behind Nato on airstrikes, with fighter jets playing an important role. Hubert Védrine, Foreign Minister, wants no change to present Kosovo stategy, but extreme right and the Communists are united against action. Public opinion: Widespread support for ground intervention (64 per cent) amid growing doubts about effectiveness of airstrikes,

> per cent in favour, 55 against. plications: Medium-term risk that Green Party, seriously divid-ed over airstrikes, will defect from Government, bringing it down.

GERMANY

Government stance: Germany committed to airstrikes, its first involvement in active combat since 1945. Fourteen Tornados in action, 3,000 troops are in Macedonia and a German frigate is in Adriatic. Ground troops will be used only to implement a peace deal. Public optulos: Airstrikes supported by 64 per cent, with 30 per cent against. East Germans are most critical. Opinion still against, but shifting towards, Nato ground troop action - 33

Covernment stance: Socialist Government of Costas Similis has been adept at walking tightroce. Says morally obliged to help Nato but has ruled out con-

tributing ground forces. Public opinion: Opinion polls vary but all put anti-Nato bombardment figure at 92 to 97 per cent. Fuelled by Orthodox solidarity with Serbs and crafted Yugoslav TV images of burning cities and dismembered bodies. Anti-Americanism high.

implications: Gloomy leaders fear a greater Albania and that northeast Turkish-speaking Muslim minority will seek autonomy.

tions on June 13.

Atlanticist, it yesterday called for an intensification of airstrikes. Jozias van Aartsen, Foreign Minister, said there were still many options open to Nato, but use of ground troops was not realistic. Public opinion: About 78 per cent back Nato air raids and 68 per cent would support using ground troops, according to a recent poll.

cerned that the costly air carnpaign will overstretch an already strained defence budget, and that the country will not be able to accommodate thousands of Kosovo refugees.

tials as leading world peacemak-

er and internationally impartial.

Viktor Orban, Prime Minister, has cross-party support for airstnikes but with Nato bombs falling near border, pressure is growing to stay clear of action. No plans to contribute to military operations but air space available.

Public optaion: Decisively in favour of war - 60 per cent for, 31

implications: Long term, economy will suffer, investors avoiding a front-line state. Danube blockade and collapse of Yugoslav exports taking toll, Danger that Serbs turn on 300,000 Hungarian minority in Vojvodina region.

MAJORITY opinion in most of the countries belonging to the North Atlantic Treaty

Organisation (Nato) is behind the continuing airstrikes against Yugoslavia as leaders of the alliance gather in Washington to mark its fiftieth anniversary. Support for sending in ground troops,

however, lags behind. Both the British and French governments can count on a strong public endorsement of their hawkish stances.

In the US, acceptance of the need for ground forces is growing, but the leaders of nations in central and southern Europe face a harder task when it comes to persuading their citizens of the merits of taking such military action.

#### ICELAND

at stance: iceland's mainly conservative coalition Government fully endorses Nato's action, iceland has no army. Political parties are preoccupied with imminent election; reaction to government line has been muted. Public opinion: Before breakup of the Soviet Union and of the Warsaw Pact, Nato mambership was widely seen as strategically necessary, Today many feel uneasy about supporting military action for the first time.

implications: There may be calls for a rethink of Iceland's Nato membership, which used to be seen as a defensive coalition, useful to keep the Russians at bay.

played a pivotal rola in the conflict, providing 11 air bases for Nato attacks. Massimo D'Alema's centre-left coalition includes an anti-war Communist faction; he has managed to combine loyalty to Nato with promises of a "swift end" to the bombing. Public opinion: predominantly and increasingly anti-war; ranges from total opposition on far Left to concerns at proximity to conflict. implications: Fears that Italy will have to take in more refugees and that south's shaky economy will be hit. Fears of more instability among Balkan neighbours.

#### LUXEMBOURG

Nato state has gone along behind the campaign without great enthusiasm from its Government, led by Jean-Claude Juncker, the centrist Prime Minister.

Public opinion: About 60 per cent of the public support the goals of the air offensive but there is little backing for a ground

implications: The possibility of a prolonged war is worrying this key EU financial centre and leading federalist state, which is aulnerable to big movements in the European economy, A long conflict is also likely to further erode the euro's value.

ent stance: All parliamentary parties agree with the centrist minority Government's support for Nato action; Milosevic is regarded as an evil great enough to justify use of military force. Unhappy over information about bombed refugee convoy. Public opinion: Kosovo ground action backed by 43 per cent, with 36 against, but military capability stretched by United Nations

Implications: Nato has widespread support, but emphasis may be even more on UN solutions should the military campaign be unsuccessful.

#### POLAND -

ish Government is the most enthusiastic of the new Nato members from Central Europe about the alliance's action in the Balkans. It has sent 120 soldiers to Macedonia. There is no serious criticism from the ex-Communists. The Government would probably be ready to contribute to a ground force contingent. Public opinion: Still backs the alrstrikes though it dipped after Nato hit a refugee column. implications: In the long term significant participation by Polish

ground troops would have the ef-

fect of accelerating the modemi-

sation of the Army.

#### PORTUGAL

Government stance: Portugal backs Nato's action and has put fighter planes at its disposal; unwilling to take part in ground offensive. Battalion will give humanitarian aid to refugees in Albania. Public opinion: Two-thirds of those asked in a poli opposed a ground assault. Observers accuse Government of capitulating to US aims and note lack of concem in international community over the bloodshed in East Timor, a former Portuguese colony. implications: The conflict is far away, and is seen as having no di-

rect impact on Portugal other

than refugees possibly arriving.

Covernment stance: Under José María Aznar, Prime Minister, remains steadfast in backing for campaign. Leading opposition group, the Socialist Party, also expressing support, mainly because Javier Solana, Nato's Secretary-General, comes from its ranks. sion, with 55 per cent backing Spanish involvement and 39 per cent against, Similar number say they would back a ground war. Implications: Spain has no strategic interest of its own in the Balkans, but is increasingly keen on a strong Nato, which would protect it against any threat from North African countries.

#### TURKEY

mindful of the Kurds, may have been chary of encouraging interference in ethnic problems, but more than rallied round when it saw the humanitarian disaster. Committed F16s and opened camps for many refugees. Will consider sending ground troops. Public opinion: Kosovo's pain is deeply felt. Most of the victims are Muslim; some are ethnic Turks with relations in Turkey. Implications: Greatest danger seen in a Nato climbdown. Turkey and Greece have long been sabrerattling no one takes the threat of their fighting entirely seriously.

#### UNITED KINGDOM

Government stance: Insists that to end war refugees must return, full security be enforced and monitored by international force, and Yugoslav Army and police units be withdrawn, giving access to aid agencies. Referendum to decide future. Sees little chance of Kosovo staying in Serbia. Public opinion: Strongly supportive of action, with 2:1 majority backing airstrikes. Growing calls for use of ground troops, but significant minority inside and outside Parliament oppose war. Implications: British forces may stay in Balkans for years; cost will

bring calls for reverse of defence

#### UNITED STATES

est stance: Washington is demanding withdrawal of Serb forces from Kosovo, return of refugees and postwar autonomy for the province. Also planning for postwar rebuilding. Public opinion: Polls show slightly more than 50 per cent of Americans now favour use of ground troops. Majority support the air campaign but are apprehensive about outcome. pilcations: Debate will be revived between isolationists, who

question America's Nato membership, and internationalists, who support its role as world

the time

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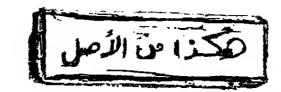
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# and "Nuclear theft 'badly harmed US'

Ben Macintyre reports on a damning CIA assessment of Chinese spying

AMERICAN security was seriously damaged by the Chinese theft of designs for the most sophisticated nuclear warhead in the US armoury, according to a damning CLA report.

The report, which was wideh leaked before its expected release yesterday, comes after a series of allegations that Chinese spies penetrated US nucleur weapons laboratories in the 1980s. It contradicts White House assertions that evidence of Chinese atomic espio-

nage is inconclusive so far. China has repeatedly denied the allegations of spying. but the CIA review team concluded that Chinese agents stole secret design data for the cated that China had leap-W88 warhead from the Los frogged ahead in its weapons development using stolen US

Alamos nuclear laboratory. The W88 is an advanced miniaturised nuclear warhead launched from submarines and the report said that the then from Los Alamos enabled China to develop its own version of the weapon, which al-lows multiple warheads to be attached to a single interconnnental ballistic missile.

gramme: investigations indi-

multiple targets.
On his trip to America this month, Zhu Rongji, the Chinese Prime Minister, said Chinese scientists had developed In 1995. US intelligence first the country's nuclear weapons noted the sudden strides being programme without the help made in China's warhead proof stolen US information.

report also investigated the im-

plications of China's develop-

ment of a missile with several

warheads capable of striking

Congress and the Adminis-

tration have launched a series of investigations into the espionage claims, focusing on why Wen Ho Lee, a Taiwan-born nuclear designs. The CIA scientist removed from his post at the Los Alamos laboratory last month, was allowed to continue working at the laboratory long after he was suspected of providing China

with information on the W88. Mr Lee, who has not been charged, was made responsible for updating nuclear weapons sofware at the laboratory in the spring of 1997, several months after the FBI had be-

gun the investigation in which he became the prime suspect. Senate and House committees are also investigating whether the Administration was slow to respond. The theft

was detected in 1995 and reported a year later to officials, including Sandy Berger, now National Security Adviser, but laboratory security was

not improved until last year.
The White House has sought to downplay the allegations of Chinese espionage and last month President Clinton said that "the investigation has not yet determined for sure" that it occured."

In evidence given at a hearing on Chinese espionage last week, Notra Trulock, an Energy Department intelligence adiser, said that initially he had been prevented from telling Congress about his concerns: officials feared US-China relations might be damaged.

The CIA damage assess ment concluded that, as well as stealing secret material, China had got information from other sources, such as academic communications between Chinese and US scientists in which information was passed inadvertently to Beijing.

Flights hit

by rioting

country's mounting debt and a

banking collapse, writes Dav-

against all non-essential travel

there as many businesses re-mained closed for a second

day after rioting on Monday

resulted in at least one death,

Airlines suspended flights to

British Airways and American

Police say they opened fire

on the rioters with teargas and

warning shots, but deny firing

The protest was ignited by a

hike in petrol prices - up to £1.25 a gallon from 97p - and

The Foreign Office warned

id Adams.

the island.

#### **WORLD SUMMARY**

## King's visit heals rift with Syria

Jerusalem: An end to years of strained relations between Syria and its pro-Western neighbour, Jordan, was signalled when the new Jordanian ruler. King Abdullah II, received a warm welcome from President Assad during his first state visit to Damascus (Christopher Walker writes).

The trip follows the funeral of Kiog Hussein two mooths ago, when the Syrian teader arrived unexpectedly oo his first visit to Jordan in five years and spent over an hour in talks with the new King. Yesterday's visit opened the way to a new Jordanian-Syrian axis after years of animosity arising from many causes, including bitter Syrian oppositioo to Jordan's 1994 peace treaty with Israel.

Sources in Amman said Mr Assad was pleased by the late King's decision to replace his brother. Prince Hassan, as Crown Prince with Abdullah, Syria had accused Prioce Hassan of backing the Syrian Muslim Brotherhood group which carried out bombings in the country in the 1980s.

#### Khmer Rouge trial set

A Khmer Rouge guerrilla commander is to be put on trial for the murder of Mark Slater, a British backpacker from Corby, Northamptonshire, a Frenchman and an Australian. who were snatched from a traio in Cambodia io 1994 (David Watts writes). No date for the trial of Nnon Paet has been set and investigations could take up to three months. The three men were bludgeoned to death.

#### 'Meddling' in Games

Australia's representative oo the International Olympic Committee, has strongly criticised America for Interferiog in the movement despite the IOC's house-cleaning (David Watts writes). Kevin Gospar said the American decision to deny taxfree status to US corporations' support of the Olympie move-ment would threaten money that had in the past been used to promote sport in less-developed conotries.

#### Neo-Nazis burn hostel

Bonn: Four people were taken to hospital with smoke poisoning after neo-Nazis set a refugee hostel ablaze at Freiberg io Saxony, eastern Germany (Roger Boyes writes). The attack, oo Tuesday, was probably intended to mark the 110th anniversary of Hitler's birthday oo Toesday. Io the Austrian city of Graz, a Jewish cemetery was vandalised with swastikas. Some Jewish gravestones were also daubed in Germany.

#### Timor peace pact

Warring factions io East Timor signed a peace agreement which the Indonesian military vowed to enforce (David Watts writes). Leaders of the militias which have clashed over ties with Indonesia signed the pact at the home of Bishop Carlos Belo, the Nobel Peace Prize winner. The agreement does not specify disarmament. Today Indonesia and Portugal resume talks on the proposed autonomy pact for the territory.

#### Wild Amazon chase

Jakarta: Indonesian authorities will try to establish whether a tribe of cannibalistic women exists deep in the jungles of the remote province of Irian Jaya. Reports of the so-called Bok tribe have claimed that it consists of 20 blg-bodied women who eat human flesh, roam naked in the Mamberano jungles, and kill the men after kidnapping them for mating. A previous official attempt to locate the tribe failed. (AFP)

#### Lost vote could be final blow for Yeltsin

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN suffered what could be a fatal political blow yesterday when Russia's Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, voted once again to reject the resignation of Yuri Skuratov. the Chief Prosecutor and a key player in a continuing sex and corruption scandal.

The surprise decision is in defiance of the wishes of Mr Yeltsin, who failed to get rid of Mr Skuratov in a similar vote last month. Kommersant-doily wrote yesterday that, if Mr Yeltsin failed to secure the support of the Federation Council. it would be tantamount to his impeachment. The council fell 29 votes short of the 90 votes needed to accept Mr Skuratov's resignation.

'This is a colossal political loss for the President and it will mean a political crisis whose consequences cannot be guessed at," said Andrei Piontovsky of the Centre for Strate-

gic Studies. Mr Skuratov, who has been investigating alleged bribe-taking by Kremlin officials, was suspended when charges of abuse of power were brought against him after the showing of video material showing him cavorting with prostitutes, but it is alleged that the prostitutes were provided by people wishing to avoid prosecution.



A policeman in riot gear stands guard near a smouldering barricade in Kingston in the wake of tax protests

# Space, the final frontier for rich tourists

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

PACK up your moon boots and head for the stars. According to the Euro-pean Space Agency (ESA), holidaymak-ers may be able to take trips into space in the near future and stay in hotels orbiting the Earth. Even-vacations on the moon should be feasible by the mid-

dle of the next century.

The announcement that space tourism could soon become a reality

came as the first of two conferences devoted to the subject opened in Bremen, Germany. The four-day con-ference coincides with the release of an ESA study on the long-term prospects

for space travel. Geraldine Naja, who is in charge of European policy and perspective at the ESA, said she expected sub-orbital trips into space - lasting several hours and in which passengers would be able to experience a few minutes of weight-

"A space hotel featuring zero gravity amusement parks and swimming pools could be a reality by 2020 and would be ten times more fun than Space Mountain at EuroDisney," she

Building the space hotel should pose few problems as the necessary technology already exists. The trouble lies in how to get there. The rockets we have

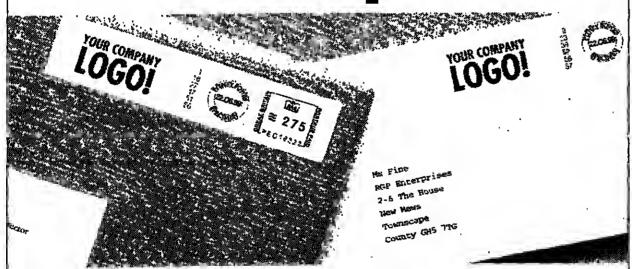
lessness — to be available in as little as at the moment are just too risky and exten years.

at the moment are just too risky and expensive to make tourism viable." she

However, the ESA is confident that the necessary breakthroughs which will make space travel sufficiently safe and affordable will not be long in coming. It is difficult to estimate the cost of a trip into space, but sums of £50,000 for a one-hour flight have been mentioned. However, the ESA believes finding customers will not be a problem.

## Important new technology news for the smaller office

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Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on John Diamond and oral cancer; nappies that are kind to the environment; treatment for depression; the benefits of drinking sheep's milk; and progress in the treatment of leukaemia

Go green, throw a nappy on the compost heap



Babies in disposable nappies stay drier and can be changed quicker, but the used nappies create a major landfill problem. Now there is a biodegradable alternative

ARCHAEOLOGISTS excavating a landfill site in Sussex in 500 years' time will still be able to find traces of granddaughter Alice's misnamed "disposable" nappies. Every discarded nappy takes this long to break down as a result of the plastic in its outer cover. Nine million disposable nappies are used every day in the UK, more than three billion in a year. They are beginning to represent a considerable environmental problem.

The dilemma of nappies did not affect my generation. We had Harrington squares as the outer nappy and muslin as a lining. They were so expensive that there was no question of disposal. They were laundered and, crisp and white, used repeatedly. Disposable nappies are quicker to put on, keep the baby's skin much drier and therefore reduce the incidence of nappy rash and other skin troubles. but they are a landfill menace.

Enviro, an enterprising manufacturer from Luton in Bedfordshire, has set out to market nappies that keep the environmentalist happy but still spare the 98.5 per cent of new parents, who opt for the convenience of disposable nappies, hours of washing. Envi-ro produces the Weenee disposable nappy, which is compostable. It was awarded a bronze medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions in Geneva and sells readily in Australia and New Zealand, where there are tax incentives to encourage families to use re-cycled nappies (my children's old Harrington squares) or compostable disposable nappies, such as the Weenee, that contain no plastic.

All listeners of gardening programmes know the value of the compost heap. The latest ingredients to go with the grass clippings, weeds and degradable household rubbish are Weenee nappies.

The manufacturers suggest that dirty plas-tic-free nappies should be flushed down the lavatory, and that wet ones should go on the compost heap. The nappies can be bought with nappy bags that are also compostable and biodegradable.

Enviro (UK) Ltd, 3-7 Frederick Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU2 7QW: 01582 484899.

# Living with cancer

ven though the tens of thou-sands of busy doctors listed in the Medical Directory need to choose their reading with care, the account of facing cancer of the tongue by John Diamond, The Times columnist, should still have an

assured readership.
Diamond's book C: Because Cowards Get Concer Too should be compulsory reading for doctors, not only because it highlights so many clinical lessons but because he wittily dissects the medical fraternity, their mannerisms and professional idiosyncrasies just as carefully as they dissected the tumour from the back of his tongue.

The book is brilliantly written, will fascinate and, despite the tragic subject, amuse and inspire both lay readers and the medical profession. Diamond has the ability to explain the complex aspects of his cancer in a way that makes it readily understandable.

Diamond developed a swelling in his neck that was attributed to glandular fever, infectious mononucleosis. The "gland" did not disappear but its continuing presence alarmed no one except Diamond. There is still the myth that glandular fever is a disease that waxes and wanes, despite research in Oxford which showed that there is scant evidence for this.

As weeks went by Diamond's glandular fever was relabelled "persistent glandular fever" and then "chronic landular fever". It transpired that the lump was not a gland but a branchial cyst - a fairly rare condition, though not one to silence a medical meeting. When the cyst was aspirated, and cells were extracted, the pathologists found malignant cells. The tumour had already spread to the nearby lymphatic glands. Even so, it was many months before the primary site of the cancer, at the root of the tongue, was discovered.

Cancers of the tongue are included in the general term "oral cancer". Diamond's book, and his accounts of his cancer in The Times, have made compulsive reading and alerted the public, doctors and dentists to the need to be watchful. In the European Union as a whole, oral cancer is more common than cervical cancer, and any person in Britain is twice as likely to die from it as from a drink-driving accident. There are 900 deaths a year in this

country from various oral cancers and 2,000 new cases are sponed annually. A recent paper published by the Royal College of Surgeons shows that oral cancer is more common in the 20 to 40 age group than previously; cases occur even in the teenage years, and increasing numbers of women are being diagnosed. In general, however, it remains a disease of the older age groups, and 85 per cent of cases occur in the over-50s. When the cancer does develop in younger people, diagnosis is more likely to be delayed, and research has shown that the chances of a diag-nosis being made while the tumour is

he earlier an oral cancer is detient is to live and the less destructive surgery has to be. When the tongue is the primary site, as in Diamond's case, 26 per cent of tumours are, like his, in the posterior third of the tongue, 47 per cent around the edges, 9 per cent on the underside, 11.5 per cent at the tip and 6.5 per cent on the centre of the tongue. Cancer of

still curable is, at best, rare under the

the back of the tongue spreads to the tonsils and the soft palate and thereafter to the lymphatic glands in the neck at the angle of the jaw. Only in about 2 per cent of cases does the cancer travel to distant organs. The tumour is most common in smokers, particularly when associated with alcohol.

Early detection improves the survival rate from 50 to 80 per cent. With this in mind, a system of screening using a mouthwash dye containing toluidine blue, OraScreen, which is selectively taken up by cells that might be malignant, or pre-malignant, is employed. Dr Gerald Feaver, senior dental adviser to Marks & Spencer, with Terry Morrison and Dr Gerry Humphris, of Liverpool University, report in Primary Dental Care that screening with Oraway of improving detection rates of the tumour. OraScreen has a 94 per cent sensitivity in detecting cancers of the mouth and even picks up lesions that do not look suspicious but which are

 C: Because Cowards Get Cancer Too is published by Rondom House, £6.99

PEOPLE WHO are clinically depressed suffer from the misconception that their troubles are theirs alone. Speakers at a recent conference on the topic in London, organised by the National Depression Cam-paign, said a depressive shares strikingly similar symptoms at any one time with - and the campaign quotes a remarkably exact figure - 4,385,689 other Britons.

One woman in four and one man in ten suffers depression at some time or another and requires professional help. The good news is that 80 per cent are helped by treat-ment, as long as they cootinue to take the medication and their doctor continues to prescribe it for an appropriate length of time - usually six

At this conference the National Depression Campaign was dealing with the imtients' friends and family. The general view was that families by medical and social services and are more likely to be seen as causes of the trouble than as agents who may help in the patient's recovery.

The overwhelming view of the lay public is that their relative or friend's depression is the result of money problems, bereavement or illness in the family, work or relationship difficulties. The importance of the underlying physical prob-lems that render a patient vulnerable to these trigger factors is seriously underestimated. However, women, more often than men, realise that an

Keep taking the pills



Depressives: not alone

abnormal biochemical or bormonal balance may be the underlying cause of the patient's depressive state. Nearly 90 per cent of relations would welcome more support when they are looking after their relative, and more information about their troubles.

At its last conference, the Campaign dealt with the problems that depressed patients have at work. A poll showed that 63 per cent of employers

were likely to be prejudiced & against employing a person who had a history of depression, even though more than eight out of ten people are aware that the disease is treatable. Not surprisingly, most patients with a psychiatric history conceal it from their em-ployers. However, this deprives employers of the oppor-tunity of modifying work sur-roundings and reducing the chance of a relapse. Potentially depressed workers are unusually vulnerable to excessive noise, inappropriate lighting, a mismatch of skills and role, and any uncertainty of what is expected of them.

The Health Department's figures showed that only one in two people with depression consults a GP. Of these, half are incorrectly diagnosed at the outset and, of these, only 50 per ceot receive adequate medication. Many patients do half given the correct dose took it for more than 28 days. This means that only seven in 100 are effectively treated.

IMS Health, a medical data-collecting organisation, suggests that the figure of 4,385,689 sufferers from depression may already be wroog. Its research shows that numbers have doubled between 1994 and 1998 from four to nine million, and its studies show that eveo with correct diagnosis, only 39 per 9 cent continued to take antidepressants for the minimum period of six months. Regrettably the average dose prescribed is usually half that recommended by specialists.

#### HOMOEOPATHS use dogs' milk to treat, among other conditions, overactive imaginations. But for most Britons milk is derived from either a cow, goat or nursing mother. The concept of sheep's milk for human consumption may not be as unusual as dogs' milk, but we are not culturally conditioned to accept it. Medically speaking, we are

making a mistake. Ewes' milk has at least 25 per cent more protein than that from a cow, and twice as much as that from a goat. It

#### Milk from the ewe is good for you

also has more lactose, and is creamier, than both — all of which makes it very nutritious. Although cheese made from sheep's milk contains more fat than, say, blue cheese made from cows' milk.

the amount of cholesterol in the cheese from cows, goats Quality health insurance

Prime Health

and sheep is the same: 45 per cent of the fat in sheep's cheese is as a mono or polyun saturated form, which should make the arterial system much healthier. The energy-giving value of sheep's milk is 25 per cent greater than the other two.

Sheep's milk is available anywhere in the United Kingdom, and is recommended for people with such allergies as asthma, eczema and other skin problems, or who find that dairy products upset them. Sheep's milk is also said to be good for "neurotics", so that, after all, their variative imaginations might not need homoeopathic pills prepared from the milk of an obliging

dog.

One group of people who could overcome their objections to sheep's milk with advantage are those prone to osteoporosis, for it may con-tain up to twice as much calcium as cows' milk, as well as more zinc, magnesium and phosphorus.

● The British Sheep Dairying Association: 01420 563151



Sbeep's milk has many advantages over that of cows

#### A healthier chance of leukaemia survival

IN 1979, when Margaret Thatcher first moved into 10 Downing Street, Lawrence Faldo became the first person to receive a bone marrow transplant in Britain from an identical twin. Lawrence was 27 and had leukaemia. Twenty years on, unlike Mrs Thatcher's government, he is still going strong and the father of triplets, two boys and a girl, now aged nine.

The three are due to ride in a bikeathon for

Leukaemia Research in Battersea Park on Sunday, June 13, when four bicycle rides are starting from the park. The money raised from the pledges will go to the Leukaemia Research Fund of Great Ormond Street Hospital. Last year 2,700 cyclists took part and were sent on their way, through the dripping rain, by Glenda Jackson, the minister in charge of London's transport.

The treatment of many types of leukaemia has been one of the success stories of postwar medicine. When I was a junior hospital doctor. it was not uncommon for small children to be admitted with leukaemia and to die within a matter of days. Now a realistic, but not always anainable goal, is a cure for all cases of acure lymphoblastic leukaemia and acute myelogenous leukaemia. The babies whn, 40 years earlier, would have died rapidly now have a good

chance of tiving a normal lifespan. There is unlikely to be any one cause of leukaemia. The fears that were expressed about living near pylons or power stations have abated. but the latest anxiety is that life near an estuary may be associated with a slightly higher than normal -but statistically significant - susceptibility to this group of diseases. Pollution in the water is cited as a possible reason.

Leukaemia Research Fund London Bike-

Central London to Heathrow in 15 minutes



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#### THE TIMES THURSDAY APRIL 22 1999

# Let me tell you a story

Ben Haggarty is a master of man's oldest tradition. Interview by Erica Wagner

Oral

has been

stand-up

comedy

he six-year-olds were silent. No big deal? OK. The six-year-olds were silent for nearly an hour. It was a Friday afternoon at the Science Museum in London, and I watched as they sat enraptured, listening to Ben Haggarty tell stories. Ben is a professional storyteller, and I, too, was spellbound - I don't use the word lightly - as Ben, with no props other than his sombre black suit, bright yellow shirt and a rather extraordinary Burmese temple bell, told stories of magic and monsters that turned

the austere lecture theatre around us into a flickering cave of wonder. But Haggarty - one of the foremost figures in the Briosh storytelling revival of the past 20 years and a co-founder (with Hugh Lupion and Pomme Clayton) of The Company of Storytellers culture

 doesn't just tell stories for children. I first encountered him at the Briosh Museum, flanked by winged Assyrian lions, telling a two-hour version of the 5,000-year-old Epic of Gilgamesh. His account of the wildman Enkidu's frolics with the Holy Whore was not for the under-sevens. "I'm interested in the speak-

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ed one

ing image, the image that speaks," he tells me as we sit in a Polish cafe, with lemon tea and cheesecake. His voice is strong and flexible, compelling even when he is not in front of an audience. "Something has happened just before; something will happen afterwards, but that moment, there, is full of all that's been and all that's going to come; the art of storytelling is knowing how to

choose that moment."
On the eve of World Book Day it seems well to remember that long, long before the book was the story. "Most of the world's literature is oral," says Marina Warner, whose latest work exploring myth and literature, No Go The Bogeyman, was published by Chatto & Windus last year. "Many of the things we think of as 'written', such as the Gospels, are actually presented as a kind of transcript. It is only recently that the written has come to

be considered 'authentic', and the oral

somehow lesser, or debased."

Michael Ignatieff, the author and critic who has seen Haggarty's work, notes that while novels such as Don DeLillo's Underworld and Salman Rushdie's The Ground Beneath Her Feet testify that we haven't lost our patience for big stories, oral cul-ture has been reduced to little more than stand-up comedy. But the traditional sto-ry still has great value: "The story is the basic organising device for giving infor-mation meaning. Our need for information is incorrigible; so our need for stories is incorrigible, too. The danger is when it

all gets packaged out to Disney."

Ben Haggarty has no doubts — as no one who has ever heard him would doubt about the authenocity and cononued existence of oral culture. His tales are not memorised but improvised, following a determined path but taking the listener on a different journey each telling. One of the tales I heard him tell was reduced to the terrifying Eaten Father, Eaten Mather, of East European origin, which finds a young prince in flight from Death. ("Kings and death, that's what most storytelling's about," Ben

says.) "Once upon at time," he begins. "Once - not twice, not three times, but only once and never again" that is how it is, the story unfolding in

front of you now and now and now. So what makes a storyteller special? Can anyone tell a story? Haggarty makes a sharp divide between the hearthside, or informal, tradition and the professional one. Medieval Irish storytellers, he says, could be trained for up to a dozen years. He clearly sees his own apprenticeship in these terms; he is no amateur. He has a reperioire of about 250 stories, some of which are tellings of the great epics such as Gilgomesh; the Mahabarata or the Welsh Mabinogion, and some of which, like Eaten Father, Eaten Mother, are drawn from many different tradicional sources but fashioned by him. He has always been drawn to stories



Kings

and death

— that's

what

it is all

about

with aspects of magic and epic. He thought, at first, that he would find what he was looking for in the theatre. In the late 1970s he spent time with the radical theatre company Welfare State International, which had moved away from conventional theatre toward myth and masque. It was while working as a scene shifter — "I was a Cosmic Midwife: I had huge cardboard tits and a big hat with plastic babies hanging from the rim" - at an outdoor performance that he realised he was on the wrong track.
"It had rained and I had to vacuum up

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all these puddles. And then, just when they were about to start, it began to rain again and I had to vacuum again. We were staying in caravans on a reclaimed rubbish tip, and when I went back to my caravan someone had left a copy of a magazine with photographs of Peter Brook's company performing The Conference of the Birds — Helen Mirren and all these people being birds in their ordinary clothes ... and I just thought, \*\*\*\* it, I've spent the whole day vacuuming up bloody puddles! All this cardboard tis and stuff — it's too complicated."

So Brook, he assumed, would provide the answer; he took himself to Avignon in 1978 to watch the Brook company over and over again. But Brook convinced him to choose another path. "He helped me to realise that I wasn't interested in plays nothing I saw on stage was as good as what I saw in here," he says, a finger at his temple. "It dawned on me: why don't you just go and tell the stories?"

He put in his "flying time", as he calls it.

working with multicultural projects in West London in the early 1980s; working in schools, where his vibrant tales can give children of all cultures access to each others' stories, is still a large part of what he does, although changes in school funding have meant

that, to his great regret, he is called in less often. He remains involved with London's Crick-Crack Club, of which he was a co-founder in 1987; by 1989 he was in charge of a 15-day international storytel-ing festival at the South Bank with a budger of £87,000. "That," he says somewhat rue-

fully, "is what turned my hair grey."
He was an adviser, too, to the Staryteller series with John Hurt from Jim Henson Productions: he chose the tales. Anthony Minghella wrote the scripts. With The Company of Storytellers, he continues to be involved with that and with the international storytelling festival Beyond the Bor-

ders - "Womad without the tunes," as he calls it - at St Donat's Castle in Wales. He'll be at the Hay Festival with other storytellers. It's a fairly ionerant life. How many people do you know who can start a sentence: "So I met this Lakota Sioux

woman in Stockport . . . ? Home is now in Worcestershire with his wife, Waz, a painter, and their two children - Blade, 12, and Bethany, ten - but he is hardly ever there.

The sacrifice seems worth it to him. He does what he loves to do and he possesses a rare skill. He says he is never tempted to write down his stories a tape he made some years ago he withdrew from sale. For a writer this is a strange concept; but Haggarty seems to balance easily between the notions that while what he does is his alone, the stories are not. American storytellers, he tells

me with a sigh, have begun to sue each other for possession of their tales. It is not something he would ever resort to, which he explains by telling me of a trip he took Io India a few years ago. Travelling in a rural area, he happened upon a wonderful artist, bought one of his paintings and went off. Two hours later he returned:

"And there was the guy - he had rolled out another piece of paper and was re-painting the same work I'd just bought. I heard this voice inside me which said 'No! that's mine! — that's what the West, with its culture of the individual artist, had taught me. I realised that from his point of view, it wasn't mine, It was a painting he

had sold: he would make another one."

The book remains on the shell, stade; although a reader's response to it may change with each reading, and each read-er will understand it differently. The storyteller's work is elusive: the price of your ocket doesn't give you anything you can take away. But if you have a chance to hear the tales which have shaped the dreams of humankind, tales of the gods and monsters that haunt us still, then sit down and listen. You might just discover that you, too, find the plot.

 Ben Haggarty, c/a Traditional Story-telling Projects, Marley Bank, Whit-bourne, Wares WR6 5RU; tel: 01886 821576. He ond other storytellers will be appearing of the Hay Festival, Hay-on-Wye, Saturday and Sunday May 29, 30. Box affice: 01497 821299 or 821217. The Beyond the Borders Internotional

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# Celebrity corner

friend who counts her-self a pretty hardened PR expert (and former rabloid journalist) casts her eye over a list of celebrities pinned to my noticeboard. "Hah." she says. 'you'll be lucky to get one reply from that lot."

I protest that my hitlist (which admittedly in-

cludes such literary heavyweights as Maron Amis and Alan Bennett, alongside such "hot" thesps as Jude Law and Sadie Frost) is in a good cause: to stop the Government closing libraries nationwide and specifically our "local" — Chalk Farm Library, in Prim-rose Hill, North London. My friend is unconvinced. All celebri-

ties care about, she contends, is themselves.

Primrose Hill certainly has plenty of celebrity inhabitants. At any given moment a host of the notable and notorious can be spotted going about their chores — Ben Elton picking up his dry-cleaning. Alan Bennett cycling, Lucy and Harry Enfield walking their first-born, the Natural Nylon gang (Jude Law, Sadio Foost, Jonny Lee Law, Sadie Frost, Jonny Lee Miller, Sean Pertwee and Ewan McGregor) drinking cof-fee, and the Gallagher brothers generally misbehaving. The attraction is not hard to

fathom. As Martin Amis noted, PH presents a kind of "pastoral idyl)". If anyone were to tell you that just over a mile from the West End there exists an exquisite expanse of green, peopled primarily by a tiny close-knit community (from both ends of the social spectruin) inhabiting sugared almondooloured houses and enjoying the kind of "village atmosphere that could otherwise be found only in the wilds of the Outer Hebrides, you would call him/her a liar or Fay Weldon (Weldon based part of her book/TV series Big Nomen in the area.)

But what marks it out from other big celeb hunting grounds such as Notting Hill is that Primrose Hillites pride themselves on their ability to affect a spectacular indifference to their famous neighbours. When Derek Draper's fame was at its zenith, a barrister who lives opposite knocked on his door. Draper opened it expecting a torrent of abuse or Primrose Hill's literati and glitterati have responded in force to Tina Gaudoin's SOS to SOL — Save Our Libraries



The actors Sadie Frost, left, and Jude Law; Spice Girl Mel B



praise. He got neither. The barrister, who had no idea who

Draper was, merely requested that he remove the life-size cutout of Bill Clinton from his liv-Ing-room window as it was scaring his children.

When a group of schoolgirls hung out on the top of Primrose Hill with a behatted, parka-wearing, laconic northern male, it wasn't until he had scrounged a cigarette and ambled off that they acknowledged to each other that it was Liam Gallagher. Spice Girl Mel B also recently experienced the Primrose Hill treatment. A couple of weeks ago she stationed herself, baby, husband and various friends outside The Tea Cosy, a local café. "Nobody bothered her all afternoon," says an observer. "I couldn't tell if she was pleased or put out."

Maybe Camden council thought that residents would display the same indifference when it announced, almost

without warning, and without proper consultation, its decision to close Chalk Farm, Bel-size Park and Kilburn libraries. Perhaps it thought that parent and toddler groups, pen-sioner support groups and hundreds of regular users would accept their lot. Certainly it assumed that by creating a super-library in Swiss Cottage it was doing local inhabitants, living within what it disingenuously called a "one-mile radius", a favour. But it became clear in the weeks after the ruling that hundreds, maybe thousands, of individuals would be unable, for economic, social or physical reasons, to frequent the superlibrary "The local library is our one point of contact; without it we will be isolated," says a septuagenarian resident. A legal challenge to Camden's decision was mounted, but we needed help to give the Save

Our Libraries campaign national prominence. In our household bizarre are you out there?

events began to occur. During a heated exchange of views with my husband over who would unload the dishwasher. Harry Enfield left a message on the answering machine pledging his help. (The headline in The Camden New Jaurnol read "Oi Camden! No!") Letters of support ar-

rived from Sam Mendes and Ben El-ton Mendes, who cast Nicole Kidman in The Blue Room, is scandalised: "Primrose Hill Library was where I first experienced the joys of Asterix." I exited the shower

one morning to pick up the phone. "Hello." says a familiar voice. "this is Jonny Lee Miller. Sure I'll help you out." The same day 1

arrived home to find my babysitter hopping from foot to foot: "Sean Pertwee has left a message — he's against library closures." My hero, Alan Bennett, sends a post-card in his spidery scrawl. "You can add my name to your list as long as I can avoid those journalists." I write back and confess that I am one. Isabel Fonseca, Martin Amis's wife, says that Amis will speak out against the closures at a sold-out reading he is giving in Swiss Cottage Library. "I

need all the facts," she says. We are on a roll. Esther Freud agrees to give a reading, Joan Bakewell is pictured in the national press supporting the legal challenge, Rachel Weisz talks about saving PH library to Tatler, and Sadie Frost and Jude Law ring to

offer support. So with all this celebrity backing will the Save Our Libraries campaign succeed? Our fingers are crossed. Does Camden feel ashamed of its bid to save £110,000 this year by cutting off the lifeblood of three local communities?It had better. Have Primrose Hill celebrities shown that they care passionately about the world beyondtheir own their doorsteps? Absolutely.

Interestingly, there's one on my hitlist I have yet to hear from. Strange really: one would imagine that at the moment he might have a bit of time on his hands. Derek Draper. Primrose Hill resident and man of the masses.

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# The heart of darkness defies reason

It is impossible to know which

of our loners will turn killer

n William Golding's nov-el. The Lord of the Flies. Ralph, the well-meaning schoolboy whose friend Piggy has been savagely killed by a gang of his classmates, seeks an explanation for their depravity. What was it that had stripped the veneer of civilisation from a group of middleclass children and turned them into merciless hunters?

He finds no answer. He understands that, at some point, they had crossed a gulf from "common sense, their daylight sanity", and had entered a nightmare world of mayhem and revenge from which they could no longer turn back. But the reason why such forces had been unleashed in the first place were. he realised, unfathomable. Rescued, at the last minute, from the brink of that same nightmare, Ralph wept for the end of innocence and the darkness of man's heart". It is hard to do other than

weep, like Ralph, for the children of the Columbine High School, massacred for no better reason than that were an easy target for un-governed hatred. Where that hatred stemmed from, and why it sought so bloody an ootlet, will have to wait undi we know more about the members of the gang that carried it out, their personalioes, their backgrounds, and their lethal alienation. Already it seems clear from how they behaved and what

they wore - the black trenchcoats, the ski masks, the crude pastiche out of Quentin Tarantino - that this was an act of vengeance against a society which had, in some real or imagined way, rejected them. But that scarcely begins to explain such sustained and random violence.

Nor does the growing number of similar examples at schools in America and Britain provide much help. Lord Cullen, who conducted the inquiry into the massacre at Dunblane Primary School, heard detailed evidence on the state of mind that had driven the damaged loner. Thomas Hamilton, to murder 17 pupils and their teacher on March 13 1996. Two of the principal psychologists he called disagreed about whether Hamilton was a paranoid personality or a psychopath, but they both ruled out any form of mental illness. He took no drugs, he did not smoke or drink, he had no physical abnormalioes. That he was lonely, rejected and embit-tered was obvious, but it was the sheer banality of his life rather than evidence of his sinister intent that struck the

inquiry most forcibly. Lord Cullen saw Hamilton's repeated failures - sexual, social and professional - as leading up to a fatal point at which the "daylight sanity" referred to by Golding gave way to nightmare madness. But even he could not say what had pitched so vacuous a character into mass murder. "His personality was characterised by a desire to control others in which his guns were the focus of his fantasies." said Cullen. "It seems to me that he lacked any real insight into the fact that his conduct had led to

the decline of his fortunes and in his reputation. In that situation he turned his fantasy into reality in order to achieve control in one final and terrihie manner."

We may find elements of this recourse to killing as the ultimate weapon of control from events at Columbine High School. But in other respects the comparison with Dunblane is remote. Instead of the demons inside one grown man, the American killers belonged to a group of adolescents who seem to have fuelled their own sick fantasies by indulging a shared idea.

If it is true that they read neo-fascist propaganda, admired Hitler, and held racist views, then this may have been a catalyst for violence on a scale which no normal human being could otherwise contemplate: and suicide at the end of it would be the final gesture of defiance. A bunch of ordinary dropouts, brought together by extremist views, was transformed into a death squad. 'The group that storms the Bastille," wrote Sartre, "is totally different from the group that stands at a bus-

why children, though, and why choose victims so vulnerable, with weaponry so ferocious? Perhaps the simplest explanation is that killing children is the most repugnant of all crimes, the one that prompts most ootrage from a society that is itself

despised. In a culture ridden with violence, where images of brutality suffuse film and television, the act that can still shock is the massacre of innocents: choosing the Nazis as a symbol of evil is another way of causing maximum outrage; and to target racial minori-hes is to reject ac-

cepted standards of civilised behaviour. The weapons used were those of the terrorist. By opening up with machineguns and grenades in a school, terrorism becomes domestic.

There may be parallels here with the killing of Stephen Lawrence, or the nail bomb explosion in Brixton. Whatever the role of the white can investigated by the Macpherson inquiry, there is little doubt that its shared ideas about race, and its violent language, translated into violent action as two of them simulated stabbing attacks. The nail bomb wrought indiscriminate vengeance on society as a whole.

andom they may be, but tragedies like these are far from isolated. The ease with which the gang secured its murderous weapons, the vulnerability of the school, and the fact that the attackers seem deliberately to have copied similar acts of horror, suggest that there will be more to come. However much we learn about those who cross the border from reality to murderous fantasy. we will never find a foolproof way of identifying them in advance. In the end, we will still be confronted by the unimaginable, the darkness of man's heart, for which there is no rational explanacion.

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# We're all Blairites now

hen Tony Blair arrives in Washington today to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Nato and to deliver one of his famous seminars on the Third Way, he ought to express some thanks for the

unsung heroes of his polifical triumphs. When he goes to the tomb of the unknown soldier in Arlington, he should pray not only for the Nato pilots in Kosovo, but also for the shanty dwellers of Thailand, the hungry pensioners of Russia and the jobless workers of Korea, who have become the unwitting shock troops of the Third Way's global victory over the dark forces of Thatcherism and Reaganomics.

The great global economic crisis, which started in Thailand and Indonesia nearly two years ago and reached its apogee last summer with the financial collapse in Russia, was one of the luckiest breaks thal Bill Clinlon and Tony Blair ever had, even in their amazingly lucky careers. Not only did the misfortunes of Thalland. Korea and Russia end up actually helping both the American and British economies. They also, by testing to destruction the free market economic principles of the 1980s, created a voridwide constituency for the

Third Way.
The Blair-Clinton style of politics has suddenly become all the rage, even among the predatory capitalists of Wall Street and the former economic fundamentalists of the Republican Right. Peter Lilley's proclamation this week that the market had its limits is only the latest conversion to the new consensus. Nobody seems to believe any longer that markets work best if businesses are simply left to their own devices or that capitalism can avoid booms and busts without active government intervention.

In short, the Third Way faith in "smart" government seems to have triumphed completely over the Thatcher-Reagan doctrine that government is the problem and market

forces the solution.

But what has all this to do with the global economic crisis? We can feel free to review the crisis as a historical phenomenon now that it has been declared more or less officially over by Michel Camdessus, the managing director of the Internadonal Monetary Fund. The crisis had profound ideologi-

cal effects. These were highlighted in the televised address given by President Clinton this Tuesday on The global economic crisis has

secured the victory of the Third Way

the unlikely subject of "the global financial architecture". President Clinton committed himself to interventions in the ultimate free market the global financial system - of a kind that American governments have resisted for decades. He said that international financial markets need to be closely regulated by international agencies; that Western countries must commit large sums of public money to Third World debt relief and to safety nets against future financial crises; that Western banks must make

large contributions fered by developing nations and develcountries must expose their domestic economic policies to unprecedented external surveillance if they want to enjoy the benefits of Western capital. All of these policies would have seemed wildly heretical in the years of the free market consensus and similar proposals for "a new financial archi-

tecture" were being ridiculed in Washington, Bonn and Tokyo as recently as a year ago. It is worth recalling that as recently as last summer, George Shultz, the respected Secretary of State in the Reagan Administration, was seri-ously proposing the total abolition of the IMF and the World Bank.

An even more important consequence of the global crisis has been the total rehabilitation of the sort of active economic management officially abandoned during the monetarist heyday of free markets. In such former bastions of laissez faire monetarism as the IMF and the bond houses of Wall Street, it is now completely taken for granted that capitalist economies need to be actively managed, either by politicians or by public officials, in order to avoid booms and busts.

The idea that central bankers and finance ministers are inherently incompetent to manage economic cycles, while bond traders always know what they are doing, seems so

stupid it is not even treated as a joke. As for the protestadons by the European Central Bank and the Bundesbank that interest rates should not be used as an "instrument of counter-cyclical demand management", people in Washing-ton and on Wall Street respond with cynicism, American bankers argue: These people in Frankfurt are just lying: trust me, they are not as stupid as they sound."
Even the West's actions in Kosovo

have been profoundly affected by new attitudes to national sovereignty, global interdepend-

ence and international regulation. Nato's intervention is exactly analo-gous, and closely related, to the way that global financia institutions such as the IMF and the various G7 bodies took upon themselves unbrecedented powers to intervene in the domestic economic affairs of stricken developing nations in the name of the global eco-

nomic stability and financial probity. Ideologically the global financial crisis has dealt a crushing blow to the 1980s doctrines of market fundamentalism and laissez faire geopolitics, opening the field to the universalism and intervencionism of the Blair-Clinton Third Way. But the crisis has also helped in a more mundane sense. The unprecedented political popu-

larity of both Bill Clinton and Tony Blair is a direct byproduct of the global economic crisis. On the basis of all political precedents, the British and American governments should now be in the depths of their mid-term popularity slumps. Yet both Clinton and Blair are as popular today as when they were elected. To many observers this breakdown of the standard political cycle may appear a mystery. But it is quite comprehensible from an economic point of view. Poliocians get elected by promising prosperity. low inflation, low laxes, good public services and low interest rates. They

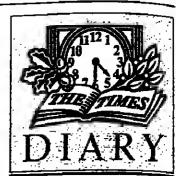
are then punished by the voters when it becomes apparent that they cannot deliver. This normally happens after two years or so. This time, however, neither the Briosh nor American government is succumbing to such a cycle, and the reason is closely connected with the crisis in emerging markets.

This crisis triggered panic in Western financial markets and caused serious suffering for tens of millions of people in developing countries who lost their businesses, savings and jobs. But for Britain and America, whose economies have been growing strongly on the basis of domestic consumption and investment since the mid-1990s, the deflationary shock from emerging markets has been almost completely benign. By early 1997 governments and central banks were already under pressure to raise interest rates and restrain inflation. The godsend for Blair and Clinton was that the global financial crisis intervened, obviating these anti-inflationary measures.

o take the most obvious example, it is almost cer-tain that British interest rates would have been raised a good deal further last year had it not been for the Russian crisis. Whether this more abrupt monetary oghtening would have led to a bigger slowdown and a steeper rise in unemployment would have depended on the skill of the Bank of England. But the blame for the resulting economic hardships would certainly have fallen on the Blair Government. A similar story can be told about America, where the strength of the economy and the popularity of Bill Clinton have both been clearly linked to the stellar performance of Wall Street. And nobody on Wall Street any longer disputes that the effect of the crisis in emerging markets on share prices has been extremeley benign, by eliminating inflationary pressures and thus pushing interest rates downwards.

The question now is whether these benign effects begin to turn malignant. If, as seems likely, world recovery accelerates strongly in the next 12 months, will policymakers in the US and Britain take the unpopular measures needed to control inflatinn? Or will they be lulled into a false sense of security by their surfeit of good luck?

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# Rock romp

JAMES BOND will battle singlehandedly with Spain for control of the Rock of Gibraltar in his next romp. As Pierce Brosnan finisher The World Is Not Enough, due to bite fleapits by Christmas, Ray mond Benson, the writer authorised by Ian Fleming's literary estate to cononue the author's work, is confecting an adventure designed to ruffle Anglo-Spanish relations with, I gather, cheery advice from the Foreign Office.

More publicly the FO's emissaries are shunling between London and Madrid to ease tensions over the prickly slab of British territory. José Maria Aznar, the Spanish PM, called it "a base for kidnapping, assassinations ... drug running and money laundering". It is hoped that 007, who must be

knocking back Viagra after all these years, will tangle with the talented Iberian Ines Sastre (with Brosnan belowl. Bond's new nemesis will be Domingo Espada. an "evil Spanish matador" — but, as Drake proved, the paella munchers



CHILDREN being shown round Downing St by Gordon Brown the other night were given a rare treat when the Chancellor decided to pop into No 10 to introduce them to the boss. There, at Spm. sat Cool Tony in jeans, T-shirt - and slippers.

■THAT loincloth of laddishness. Jeremy Clarkson, was not expelled from his public school as he likes to suggest, Motormouth rumbles that Repton threw him out - for drinking, smoking and slipping into overdrive with local girls. "It wasn't one big thing that got me kicked out," he has said. "Besides bunking off I was caught drinking in the grounds, smoking by the tennis courts, putting Polyfilla in the keyholes and other daft antics."

The mathamatics master of 30 years, Russell Muir, says Jezza completed his A levels and was "rather grey". Says Muir: "He sport, the arts, anything." But in a recent survey, sixth formers named Clarkson the most distinguished Old Reptonian". Roald Dahl chugged in second.

CITY sorts could be taking a Latinesque siesta at lunch. A Barcelona chain store offering the chance of daytime shut-eye wants to open in London.



has flopped in the UK after proving a hit with unionists across Europe. Sales are so droopy here that the Dutch manufacturer is to stop promoting it in Britain. Packets. I am told, are decorated with the EU flag. "Sadly there is not the same enthusiasm for the Euro project in Britain," says Fred Julsing, general manager of CMD BV. Andrew Roberts is not surprised: "It is enough to leave most red-blooded Brits feeling rather flaccid."

TO dinner in New York with Ruby Wax. lamenting her fluffy image. 'I don't want to be like Faust selling his soul to Aristopheles." Mephistopheles, perhops?

■ AS HITLER enthusiasts toas his birthday, I ask David Irving the historian, how the goosestepper spent the day. "He enjoyed military parades," salivates Irving, "and had rooms packed with presents from German industry. On his 50th birthday he was particularly pleased with a model of the bauleship Bismarck."

AS Sorah Ferguson takes Wedgewood to America, where she will spend over half her time, she is giving up her WK office. The stoff of four at a new Fergie HQ is to be slimmed to o lone secretory.

#### 'The war is being fought to destroy the very principles which constitute the West. This is not moral: it is megalomaniac'

mong the charred corpses and smoking ruins of Kosovo there lies an unreported casualty. It is not one of the hundreds of physical victims of Nato's bombs but instead a metaphysical one. In 1999 as in 1389, the Blackbird Field has witnessed the defeat of that spiritual body of values which in the postwar period used to be known as the West. This is because the war is being fought to destroy the very principles which constitute the West, namely the rule of law.

Unlike in 1389 however, the enemy is not the Sultan but rather the leaders of the Western nations themselves. It is false to claim, as Tony Blair now does, that Serb mistreatment of the Kosovo Albanians, is the casus belli. Instead, the bombing started because President Milosevic refused to allow hostile foreign troops on to Yugoslav soil. Overturning this refusal remains Nato's overriding purpose. Yet this demand is completely incompatible with the logic of a system of sovereign states, which for the past 350 years has formed the basis of Western polices, liberalism and the rule of law.

To be sure, state sovereignty is not an absolute principle. It can be overriden in certain extreme cases. But the present war is being fought in order to override it in all cases, and to remove it completely as a relevant factor in the new world order. Mr Blair has said the war is being fought for "a new internacionalism". Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, has said that its purpose is to establish a precedent for the "new strategic concept" of Nato, namely that it should be able to intervene in the internal affairs of a sovereign state for humanitarian reasons. Nato. by definition, never had

John Laughland

this role when it was set up, as a defensive alliance, protecting the sovereign territory of its mem-If the war is post-nadonal in its

aims, it is also post-national in its implementacion. Nato, an anonymous international apparatus based in Brussels and acting outside the terms of its own charter, is colluding with a group, the Kosovo Liberation Army, whose structures and goals owe very little to any political programme of national liberation for Kosovo and instead a great deal to the needs of its mafia activities and extensive drug-running network. The only nation involved is Serbia, whose wholesale destruction is certainly going to be the outcome of the war, though not its stated aim. This is why all the war's main protagonists are old enemies of nationhood. Nato and the West. Bill Clinton, Mr Blair, Joschka Fischer and Senor Solana form "the new generation of politicians who hail from the progressive side of poliocs" of which Mr Blair boasts. Commentators have been wrong to chuckle at the apparent conversion of these

one-time opponents of US power.

for the truth is much worse. This war represents the most complete fulfilment of their deepest internationalist convictions. Like the conversion of the New Left to the market, its new warmnngering should give no comfort to conservative supporters of economic liberalism or the Atlantic alliance. Instead of being systems for the protection of national liberties, both these have now been subverted into

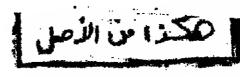
vehicles for their destruction. Mr Blair has even compared the four weeks of bomb attacks on Yugoslavia to the process by which globalisation is opening up the world's financial architecture for discussion, re-evaluation and improvement". War, it seems, is now the continuation of economic integration by other means.

n place of the old system of naoonal legal systems creating free markets and national liberties, a new world order of universal human rights is being set up. The problem is that the bogus notion of human rights can never provide a basis for either the rule of law or morality. Whereas a national system of justice is a self-contained entity which grows with and defines the society in which it inheres, universal human rights are detached from any rootedness in time or place. Their application therefore inevitably flails around capriciously, according to the latest whim of outrage or the latest fad for victimhood. It is therefore inevitable that the brave new world of universal

human rights is. in fact, a topsy-turvy world of gruesome moral relativism. Why support the KLA, while sidelining the moderate Albanian resistance under Ibrahim Rugova? Human rights are, by defini-

tion, annihedcal to the concept of national sovereignty. The idea that there can be such a thing as universal human rights implies that there can be a single global system of civil law with Nato playing the role of world government. But for its sins, mankind has been divided up into different peoples. Any attempt to behave as if this were not so is not moral: it is megalomaniae.

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# THETTIMES

#### **DEMOCRACY IN DANGER**

The West must throw lifelines to beleaguered Montenegro

Montenegro, poor, wildly beautiful and with a proud national identity, is the last republic besides Serbia to have stayed in the shrunken Yugoslav federation. It has been miserably rewarded for a loyalty. now severely strained, that Mr Milosevic has held in contempt. The tiny republic has been progressively undermined, first by the heavy economic and human costs of Slobodan Milosevic's onslaughts in Croatia and Bosnia and the UN sanctions imposed on Yugoslavia, then by Belgrade's efforts to destabilise the democratic Government of President Milo Djukanovic, and now by the Kosovan bloodbath which, while opposing Naio airstrikes, Mr Djukanovic has courageously denounced.

This tiny republic, valiantly trying to stay neutral in this conflict, is in grave danger of being torn apart. Yugoslav forces, which have been ratcheting up pressure for weeks, have begun expelling and killing refugees along Montenegro's frontier with Kosovo. The Yugoslav Army is blocking access to Montenegro from Croatia, directly challenging the Government's authority in an area declared a demilitarised zone by the UN, and demanding full control over the police. The Government is defiant, but has reason to fear a military coup. In a country of divided loyalties, whose "Whites" have long wanted union with Serbia and whose "Greens" want independ-

ence, its ousting would lead to civil war. Serbians have no conceivable interest in instigating this disaster. Montenegro was an independent state from the 14th century until 1918, when communist rebels backed by Serb troops and irregulars overthrew its king and declared union with Serbia. Montenegro's Slavs speak a different dialect of Serbo-Croat and until recently, their clan-based society bore little resemblance to that of the Serbian plains. But the two republics have close cultural and religious affinities; and in hard practical terms, Montenegro offers Serbia its only outlet to the Adriatic, and its only naval base. To open a second front there would be political as well as human folly; and Montenegro would be no push-over. The interior police are loyal to the President.

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and although they are heavily outnumbered by the 2nd Yugoslav Army based there, many of its conscripts are Montenegrins who could turn against Belgrade.

Mr Milosevic, reckless as he has always been of Serbia's real interest, may calculate otherwise. The youthful Mr Djukanovic, a former ally who has become his most formidable critic, is not just an outspoken opponent he wants out, but a standing rebuke to Belgrade's stifling police state. Since Montenegrins voted him into office in 1997, he has promoted democracy, press freedom, economic modernisation and a tolerant, pluralistic society which respects the political and cultural rights of its large Albanian and other minorities. But it has been a difficult balancing act, and the war has made him temptingly vulnerable.

Enormous tensions are imposed by the arrival of 70,000 Kosovan refugees since the air war started. With 25,000 already there, along with 25,000 Croats and Bosnians, the population of 640,000 has been swollen by a fifth; and the country is also losing \$18-20 million a month from the war, without counting Nato bomb damage. Nato bas shouldered a large part of the logistical burden of helping refugees in Albania and Macedonia: Montenegro is on its own, and needs proportionately greater financial support. But that is no longer all.

By destroying Montenegro, Mr Milose-vic may think that he would not only efface a political rival; he would demonstrate that Nato was powerless to prevent the devastation of a republic that its air campaign has tried to spare and which it supports as a regional bastion of sanity and reason. On April 2, after Mr Milosevic ominously appointed a crony to command the 2nd Yugoslav Army based in Montenegro, Javier Solana warned Belgrade against unseating Mr Djukanovic, insisting that Nato had "plans to stop" a coup. Yesterday Madeleine Albright spoke only of unspecified "serious consequences". If a plan exists - and Nato's continuing reliance on air power must be cause for doubt - it should be dusted down. For if it is bluff, evidence mounts disturbingly that Mr Milosevic is preparing to call it.

#### ARMS AND THE BOYS

Americans face yet another school shooting tragedy

After similar incidents in Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oregon and Pennsylva-nia in the past few years, the latest tragedy at the Columbine High School in Littleton. Colorado, might be expected to shock but, sadly, not surprise Americans. Although the scenes are familiar, both the character and location of this shooting are unusual. The use of home-made bombs by teenagers, allegedly based on information obtained from the Internet, is a chilling development. Littleton is a leafy suburb of Denver, not an insular Southern town or a dysfunctional Californian enclave. In that sense, if such an outrage can happen here it could occur almost anywhere in America.

The political reaction in the United States has had a predictable, almost ritualistic, quality. President Clinton has again urged the states to redouble their efforts at "pre-emptive counselling" and asked Congress to consider further gun control measures. Congressional leaders evidently have little appetite for such legislation. The National Rifle Association (NRA), which by perverse coincidence is scheduled to hold its annual convention in Denver next week, has issued its familiar refrain that guns don't kill people, people kill people". This is obviously true, although teenagers armed with semi-automatic rifles rather than water pistols do tend to be particular-

ly effective at conducting massacres. The truth, though, is that it is not only the single-minded opposition of organisations such as the NRA that prevents either the various states or Congress itself adopting gun control measures. Colorado's distinctive state constitution allows the electorate to choose to hold a referendum on almost any issue. A simple petition of citizens is

enough to initiate this process. No American state has a more permissive system of popular participation. Denver itself is a very liberal city with a record of electing anti-war activists and radical environmentalists. If really sweeping gun control laws cannot be passed here then, in a sense, they cannot be expected to make much progress anywhere in the United States at present.

The possession of personal arms has in fact become a central issue in the current session of the Colorado state legislature. This proposal, however, supported by the Republican Governor, is to render legal the carrying of concealed weapons by the vast majority of citizens. Similar measures have already been passed in a number of Southern and Western states. The Littleton slaughter may serve to stop this attempt. The fact that it had a respectable prospect of passage until yesterday is a powerful reflection of the prevailing culture in many American states. The most that can be expected is some extension of parental responsibility for the acts of armed minors. Congress will, of course, face demands to

do something. It will studiously avoid any serious constraints on gun ownership and focus instead on the supposed influence of the Internet. There will doubtless soon be proposals put forward for restricting the sort of information that can be posted on this medium. Apart from being virtually unpoliceable in practice, any such legislation would almost certainly (and correctly) be shredded by the US Supreme Court as a transparent violation of the free speech provisions of the First Amendment. The sole and unfortunate conclusion is that the Columbine High School killings are, alas. very unlikely to be the last of their kind.

#### IT'S A BUG'S WORLD

London Zoo weaves a wondrous Web of Life

Is it Pliny's fault that crawly things give us the creeps? A translation of his Natural History introduced the word insect to the English in 1601. And insects, he explained in it, were just "little vermine". The scuttlers and inchers he included in this category - the caterpillars, pismires. grasshoppers and worms - may since have been sorted into more precise phyla, but still the idea lingers that any such creature is little more than a pest to be squashed. Tomorrow's opening of a Web of Life display at London Zoo should therefore be welcomed, for it celebrates not only the loveliness, intricacy and diversity of invertebrates, but also the crucial role that they play. Our entire ecosystem, it seems, is supported on the back of a "bug".

The energy-efficient show space, in itself, gives proof of invertebrate relevance. Modelled on the complex structures evolved by termites to maintain even temperatures in the hottest, most inhospitable places on Earth, the glass-sided building is chilled in summer by the geothermic cooling effects of a borehole. while the five chimneys which diffuse the stale winter warmth, mimic the ventilating architecture of a termite mound.

When construction of this building began. London Zoo's wolf pack was removed to quieter surroundings. Residents of Primrose Hill missed the untarned night howls which tinted urban dreams. But in welcoming a breeding pair of threatened maned wolves to Regent's Park as part of the Web of Life exhibit, they will be reminded that it is upon the myriad plenitude of invertebrate life that the survival of such fine predators depends. Maned wolves in the wild snack on beetles. on insectivorous rodents such as the mouse or shrew. If biodiversity is to be maintained, if such gravely endangered species as the golden headed lion tamarin or the bleeding heart dove are to be rescued, the multitudinous tiny creatures which help to

support them must also be preserved. The fibrils of the food chain may seem as imperceptible as the miniscule brine shrimp, as frangible as the brittle star, but they are as ubiquitous as the bluebottle, as long as the Mombassan train millipede. as complex as the mosaic of a postman butterfly's wing. This is what visitors will learn. They will be connected to so intricate a web of life that they will gaze twice before they decide to stamp or swat again.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

# decommissioning

From Mr John McPhie

Sir. How ill-served the people of Northern Ireland are by their elected representatives (leading article, April 20). They have made their wishes clear in a referendum and yet the politicians cannot deliver. Perhaps they don't really want to deliver. If they did and Northern Ireland enjoyed a peaceful, normal existence there would be no more visits to the Oval office, no media attention; how boring life would become (and how utterly blissful it would be for the rest of us not to have to listen to their never-ending, pointless, illogical, circuitous arguments).

It is time for the issue of decommissioning to be forgotten. For the IRA and for others it smacks of surrender and it will never happen. If it is done in token form (which would more than likely be the case), it will be meaningless, and, anyway, vast quanoties of new weapons are readily available to any willing buyer. The whole point is whether the weapons are being used or not - and they are

Decommissioning is not a principle that is going to affect the future of Northern Ireland. It is easy to understand why it was originally included in the Good Friday agreement, but it is not set in stone and, for the sake of

peace, it must be dropped. It is beholden on the politicians to deliver the peace the Province craves - and soon. The price of peace has been too high for it to be lost because of the myopia, intransigence, selfishness and lack of imagination of certain Northern Ireland politicians.

Yours faithfully, JOHN McPHIE, Ramoton Prebend. Westgate, Southwell NG25 01H.

From Mr Harry Barnes, MP for North East Derbyshire (Labour)

Sir, Your leader argues that the British and Irlsh Governments should be willing to "park" the Good Friday agreement until the autumn. This would be what is termed a "soft landing" rather than a "crash land-

However, there is another option canvassed eloquendy by The Irish Times in its own leader of April 19. It notes the dangers of the Belfast agreement unravelling if it is parked. and possibly a reversion to large-scale violence — fuelled by confrontations over the marching season and Drum-cree. It raises the possibility of allowing the creation of a power-sharing executive without Sinn Fein until such a time as Sinn Fein can join the

There is much merit in this alternative approach. It must be clear to most people in these islands, and to international opinion, that all major items have been resolved or are in the process of being resolved with the sole

exception of decommissioning.

Given the IRA's bloody record and the dangers of vast arsenals being raised, used again or poisoning the political process, a modest gesture on decommissioning is the very least that democrats can accept for bringing Sinn Fein into the heart of govern-

Let us accept the word of Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness that they cannot deliver on this. But let us still allow them further time to do so. without throwing away the massive gains that the Belfast agreement represents.

Yours sincerely, HARRY BARNES. House of Commons. April 20.

#### **Bombing of Serbia**

From Group Captain D. A. P. Saunders-Davies, RAF (retd)

Sir, The Armed Forces know only too well that there is no such thing as an infallible weapon nor an infallible operator. Moreover, it has been a part of doctrine for many years that, while you cannot win a war without air power, neither can you win it with air power alone.

I would lay long odds that the Chiefs of Staff briefed strongly against the Yugoslav adventure and foresaw what the Serb reaction might be. They were overruled by politicians adopting a high moral tone having never seen a shot fired in anger.

Yours faithfully. DAVID SAUNDERS-DAVIES. Home Farm Cottage, Ower, Hampshire SOSI 5AN.

From Dr Tony McAllister

Sir, The term "surgical strikes" has been demonstrated by the recent killing of both Serbs and Albanians by Nato bombs to be the callous and inaccurate description it has always been. Nato has tried to blame these deaths on Mr Milosevic, but this just would not wash. Dropping bombs kills people, and it was Nato who did the dropping.

Whatever Mr Milosevic and his troops have done, it does not justify continuing this lethal bombardment. Please let us stop the bombing and resume talks about the future of this region of Serbia.

Yours faithfully. TONY MCALLISTER. 4 Redwoods, Bengeo, Hertford SG14 3BT

#### Differing views on Calling time on the coronets?

From Mr Paul N. Arthur

Sir. The recent level of correspondence on the reform of the House of Lords (letters, March 30, 31: April 6, 13, 15) shows how successful new Labour's spin operation has been. The fact is that it is not the House of Lords (which works perfectly well as it is) which needs reforming but the House of Commons. This, as Peter Riddell has observed on several occasions. could be done by strengthening the power of select committees, allowing for a much more rigorous and effective examination of the executive.

As for the Lords, there is much to say for an appointed, elected and hereditary element, together with a proportion of seats allocated by lot. In the meantime, so long as the focus of attention remains the reform of the second chamber, I shall continue to read the letters you publish with

Yours faithfully. PAUL N. ARTHUR, 12 Bracewood Gardens, Park-Hill-Rise, Croydon CRO 5/L. pnarthur@msn.com

From Mr W. Dixon Smith Sir. There can be no more appropriate

name for a reformed upper chamber than "The House of Lords" and no bers than "Lords and Ladies".

more appropriate titles for its mem-The House of Lords, under such designation, forms part of our British tradition in the truest sense of that much abused phrase: that is to say, it retains a clear and undeniable function. It is a political workshop, and its

members political workers. In spite of the determination of successive Prime Ministers to transform it into a retreat for the recipients of empty honours and for party nominees, the House of Lords has often better represented the views of the British people than has the

"democrade" Commons.
Of course, if the workaday titles of
"Lords and Ladies" are to be retained for elected members, then those who presently sport costume jewellery coronets will have to lay them aside.

W. DIXON SMITH. 6 Welland Rise, Acomb. York YO26 5HH. April 18.

From Mr T. Pearce

Sir. Would it not be a good idea to reintroduce the University Seas as part of the elected body of a reformed second chamber?

This could give a group of inde-pendent members chosen by a welleducated electorate.

Yours faithfully. T. PEARCE, 22 Shaftesbury Road. Beckenham, Kent BR3 3PW. April 20.

#### Devolution challenge for Labour

From Mr David Prockter

Sir, I read with some incredulity your leading article today describing the Chancellor of the Exchequer as the "Defender of Britain" and referring to "perceived English resentments" over devolution. The West Lothian quest-ion is a matter of genuine and legitimate concern, not least because Labour Governments elected in the United Kingdom have only twice ever had a majority of English MPs.

In future, while the Scottish assembly looks after its own domestic affairs. the historical likelihood is that Labour Governments will actually be opposed by a majority of English MPs, but sustained by Scottish MPs, in presiding over English domestic affairs. It does not amount to an outbreak of Braveheart xenophobia to point out that this is illogical and unreasonable.

We have grown used to hearing members of the Government spin-ning their way out of this sort of ill-considered muddle with warm words - in this case an appeal to the English "sense of fair play". But it is line that could not be further from fair play - let alone common sense.

Yours faithfully. DAVID PROCKTER, 36 London Road. Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 2AA. April 16.

From Mr S. Hodson-Pressinger Sir, Following Gordon Brown's warning Britain against a "retreat into fact-

#### Millennium denial

From Mr Michael Shaw

Sir. Further to Barry Hyman's letter (April 16), what are we, who are bloody-minded enough to celebrate the millennium at the right time, going to say to those who aren't, on January 1 next? Do we wish them "Happy Exciting Number Change" or welcome them to the year that puts the 20 in 20th century? Yours sincerely.

MICHAEL SHAW. 88 Underdale Road, Shrewsbury SY2 5EE.

#### Age of consent

From Mr D. J. Littleford

Sir. Whilst completely apathetic to the debate over the age of consent [letters, April 6, 10, 13, 16], I was concerned over the poll results in the Stonewall advertisement (April 13).

In response to the question "Do you believe that in Britain the age of consent should be equal for everyone or not [my italics]?" it appears that 110 per cent (yes, 66 per cent; no. 44 per cent) of the representative sample had a view. But then no wonder they were confused, as it is clearly impossible to answer the question yes or no! Lies, damned lies and statistics?

Yours faithfully, D. J. LITTLEFORD, 29 Hill Rise, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 2RX.

#### A proper pride

From Mrs Anne Barnard

April 13.

Sir, Judging by his letter (April 15), Dr Ian Olson has forgotten that many of us do celebrate a great poet on St George's Day, which is also Shakespeare's birthday. Larkin indeed!

Yours faithfully. ANNE BARNÁRD. 104 Salmon Street, NW9 8NJ.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

ionalism", we read today that reunified Germany is moving its parlia-ment back to Berlin. Surely there is a lesson to be learnt here?

Germany's constituent states, despite their differences, are not separatist. They are content to remain absorbed into a federal system.

Germans do not wish to see their country fragmenting and reverting back to a collection of small independent states. They are aware of the price paid in unification and the advantages unity has brought. Furthermore, they realise size affects their influence and power, both internationally and within the European Union. Clearly, Scottish and Welsh separa-

tists could learn from such German pragmatism. Yours faithfully, SELWYN HODSON-PRESSINGER,

4 Lyall Street, Belgravia SWI X8DW. April 19.

From Mr William M. Ballantine

Sir. It is all very well for Gordon Brown to tell us all how wonderful it is to be British, but he seems to forget that part of the reason for the rise of the SNP was the language of neonationalism used by the Labour Party in Scotland for the past ten years.

Yours faithfully. W. M. BALLANTINE, 47 The Quarryknowes. Dean Road, Borness. West Lothian EH51 0QJ. April 16.

#### Use of nuclear power

From Mr Richard Sergant-Manse

Sir. Global warming appears to me to be an acknowledged fact (report, "Outlook for 2001 is floods, fires and record heat". April 6).

Do we, therefore, really have any choice but to use more nuclear power? It seems to me that the risks of using nuclear power are now fewer than the risks of continuing to use fossil fuels.

Yours faithfully. R. SERGANT-MANSE. 72 Chorley Road, Standish, Wigan. Lancashire WN1 2SS.

#### Weather report

From Mr David L. Pugh

Sir, When I mowed my front lawn (which it badly needed) in bright sunshine today, it was necessary to break the continuity of the stripes to go around the snowman and snowlady built yesterday by my grandchildren

Yours faithfully. DAVID L. PUGH. High Street, Toller Porcorum, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 0DN. April 17.

#### Out for a duck?

From Mr William Petrie

Sir, Urban idiocy knows no bounds. A duck is holding up a £15 million mil-lennium project in Bath because it is sitting on eggs (report and photo-graph, April 19). Margaret Stewart, of the Springs' Foundation, calls the Department of the Environment's decision to refuse the council a licence to remove the duck a "victory for

common sense". If common sense really had triumphed the eggs would have been removed and placed under a broody chicken, leaving the duck free to resume its career of mugging old ladies for bread in the park.

Yours sincerely. WILLIAM PETRIE. Hazelbank Farm, Fortes IV36 ORN.

#### Cost of repairs to listed buildings

From Mr John R. Lawrenson

Sir, VAT on church repairs (leading article, April 5; letters, April 12) is a side issue, albeit very important in the amount of money raised voluntarily. handed over with pain to the Government, and graciously returned in part

via a cosy quango.

The real question concerns the ownership of churches. Since nationalisation some 465 years ago they have belonged, not, as many assume, to the Church of England, but to the State, and the sad truth is that they have suffered the same fate as nationalised industries.

It would seem both unfair and bad business to allow the Church of England to continue the myth of ownership and the practice of bad management. Better for the State to give all the churches back to those who raised the money to build them in the first place, the parishes. The burden of upkeep rests now on the declining number of elderly people on parochial church councils.

Very often the church is the only real heritage a parish possesses. Hand to the parish members the responsibility of looking after what is, after all, theirs. If they decline the offer, so be it. That church is going to fall down anyway.

Yours faithfully, JOHN R. LAWRENSON, The Old Rectory, Great Waldingfield, Sudbury, Suffolk COI0 011. April 13.

From Mr David Morton

Sir. Churches are not the only organisations troubled by the cost of maintaining and repairing listed buildings. The vast majority of listed buildings are houses, notably stately homes. However, most listed houses are family-sized dwellings, and it is with our stock of domestic listed buildings that the main issue arises.

Most of the repair burden falls on individual homeowners - in many parts of the country on low incomes -for whom the VAT on maintenance is a serious financial handicap.

A maintenance backlog leads to a decline in the condition of our historic built environment. This institute therefore does not support VAT on repairs to any listed building and welcomes the current investigations by the Department of the Environment. Transport and the Regions.

Possibilities of abuse are often portrayed, but a robust listing process would obviously prevent this. A maximum level of claim in any one year would actually encourage long-

Our illogical system allows relief from VAT for a listed building home extension which the owner can clearly afford, but not a repair which he or she may not be able to, yet which can help to preserve the fabric for future generations to enjoy.

Yours faithfully. DAVID MORTON (Convener. Design and Conservation, Historic Environment Panel), The Royal Town Planning Institute, 26 Portland Place, WIN 4BE. April 16.

#### Church 'prudery'

From the Reverend Clive L. Rawlins Sir. Apropos the Archbishop of Westminster's comment on "society's apparent preoccupadon with sex" (letter, April 13), one wonders if it is not the Church rather than society

that is so smitten? There are ten commandments and nine beatitudes - not to mention many more ethical exhortations in the New Testament — but we hear and see comparatively little expostulation on their transgression, not least against such antisocial sins as greed and pride and self-righteousness. Surely "Judge not" is the first principle of love.

Is it not time that the Church took these things more seriously and learnt to celebrate the joys of sex, recognising without embarrassment the proper attractions of a pretty face or figure, and normalised its attitudes to these without this constant knee-jerk censuring?

Anyone who has lived abroad for any length of time is positively assaulted by our obsessive prudery on returning home: "To the pure all things are pure."

Yours sincerely. CLIVE RAWLINS. Thistle Cottage. Upper Bolton. East Lothian EH4I 4HW. April 13.

#### Thatcher remembered

From Sir George Engle, QC

Sir, During Lady Thatcher's tenure of No 10 (Libby Purves's article, "Blue remembered thrills", April 20), when relations between her and the Civil Service were far from happy, one of the hot-air hand-drying devices in the Gents near the Cabinet Office Mess (where I used to go for lunch) carried, in Chinagraph, the words "For a personal message from the Prime Minister, press the red button."

Yours faithfully. GEORGE ENGLE, 32 Wood Lane, N6 5UB. April 20.



#### **COURT CIRCULAR**

HYATT HOTEL SEOUL April 21: Today is the Seventy Third Anniversary of the Birthday of The Oueen.

The Queen today visited Andong Province, Korea, calling first at Hahoe Village to view a family house and watch a regional masked dance.

Her Majesty subsequently visited Andong wholesale fruit market and Bonjong Buddhist Temple. The Queen this afternoon had tea with Korean and British Parliamentarians at the Hyatt

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this evening attended a concert of Korean and British music and dance with The President and First Lady at the KBS

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness later hosted a reception for Korean and British guests. The Duke of Edinburgh this morning visited the Panmunjom

UN Joint Security Area. His Royal Highness later visited Inchon Airport construction site. Hyundai Aerospace, Sosan and the new Naval Base and Korean Navy Destroyer Kwanggaeto the

Great at Asan. The Lord Faringdon, Lord in Waiting, was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this morning upon the departure of The Presi-dent of the Federative Republic of Brazil and Senhora Cardoso, and bade farewell to His Excellency and Senhora Cardoso on behalf of The Queen.

ST JAMES'S PALACE April 21: The Prince of Wales, as President of The Prince of Wales Foundation for Architecture and the Urban Environment, this afternoon held a seminar on urban regeneration and the development towns and cities.

His Royal Highness received members of the Council of the Royal Warrani Holders Associa-

#### Today's birthdays

Mr Leo Abse, former MP, 82; Sir Michael Atiyah, OM, FRS, former president, Royal Society, 70; Sir Christopher Ball, Chancellor, Derby University. 74: Mr Lewis Biggs. director, Tale Gallery, Liverpool, 47: Mr Alan Bond, company chairman and yachtsman, 61; Mr Peter Bowring, former chairman. C.T. Bowring, 76; Mile Yvette Chauvire, ballerina assoluta, 82: Sir John Chilcot, former civil servant, 60; Mr George Cole, actor, 74; Mr Alan Dukes, former leader of Fine Gael, 54: Lieutenant-General Sir John Foley, 60: Mr Peter Goldstein, joint founder, Superdrug, 59: Mr Lloyd Honeyghan, boxer, 39; Mr Ronald Hynd, choreographer, 68; Mr Robert Key, MP, 54; Mr Nico Ladenis, restaurateur, 65; Mr Geoffrey Marshall. FBA, Provost, The Queen's Col-lege, Oxford, 70; Mr Jack Nicholson, actor, director and producer, 62; the Earl of Oxford and Asquith. 83; Miss Margaret Pereira, forensic scientist, 71: Viscount Portman, 65: Sir David Ratford, former diplomat, 65; Miss Jancis Robinson, wine writer and broadcaster. 49; Professor Sir Eric Scowen. physician, 89: Mr Charles H. Sisson. CH, writer and poet, 85; Mr David Summerscale, former Master. Westminster School, 62: Sir Robert Wade-Gery. former diplomat, 70.

#### Margaret Blyth

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Blyth, Headmistress of Tudor Hall School from 1969-1983, will be held at 2,30pm on Saturday, May l. of St Mary's Church, Bloxham. All family, friends and former pupils will be welcome.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE April 21: The Princess Royal, Patron. Sense, this morning visited

their Head Office, 11-13 Clifton Terrace, Finsbury Park, London. Her Royal Highness, President, Save the Children Fund, today attended a Reception for Volunieers at St James's Palace.

The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, this afternoon received Major General Adrian Lyons, Director General Logistic Support (Army). and Brigadier Tony Dalby-Welsh, Director. The Royal Logistic Her Royal Highness, Patron,

Transaid, later attended a Reception at Railtrack Plc, Railtrack House, Euston Square, London.

The Princess Royal, Past Mas-ter, the Worshipful Company of Carmen, this evening attended a Dinner at Plaisterers Hall, London KENSINGTON PALACE

April 2t: The Duke of Gloucester, Commissioner, English Heritage, today attended a Commissioners' Meeting at Fortress House, Savile The Duke of Gloucester, Grand

Prior, the Order of St John, this evening attended a Charity Con-cert held by the Polish Association of the Order of Malta at the Polish Embassy, Portland Place, London. The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, BLISS (Baby Life Support Systems), this afternoon opened

he Third International Neonatal Nursing Conference at Harrogate International Centre. North York-shire. and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of North Yorkshire | the Lord ST JAMES'S PALACE

April 21: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, British Trade International, this evening attended a Reception for The Philippine British Business Council at Lancas-ter House, St James's Palace.

#### Today's royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, will carry out an investiture at Cardiff Castle, at 11.00. Princess Alexandra, as patron, will

visit the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Sick Children, Brighton, East Sussex, at 1.15: will open Partridge House, a long and short-term care centre, Lower Bevendean, at 220; and will open the renovated Crowborough War Memorial Hos pital, Southview Road, Crowborough, at 3.50.

#### Lecture

**London Goodenough Trust** Baroness Amos delivered the Brig adier Peter Pepper annual memori al lecture to the London Goode nough Trust for Overseas Gradu-ates last night at Mecklenburgh

Admiral Sir William Thomas Pillar A Service of Thanksgiving for the

William Thomas Pillar, GBE, KCB, will be held to Bath Abbey at 3.00pm on Monday, July 19, 1999. Dress for the occasion will be Day Dress (Non Ceremonial) or a Dark Lounge Suit. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickers no later than Monday, May 31, 1999, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope to Ministry of Defence, Naval Personnel Secretariat 2B3, Room 222, Victory smouth, POI 3LS, Tickets will be despatched on Monday, June 21, 1999. Tickets will be issued on an individual basis and applications must include the full names of all those who wish to attend. Admission to the service will be by ticket

Canford School The Summer Term began on Monday, April 19. The Summer Open Day will be on Saturday. May 22, between 10am and 4pm. Canford made the following awards for September 1999, many provided by the Assyrian Frieze

16+ Averds S P Covington. M-L V Craven, H Kerolo, H I. Mathews, C Ponda, A C Sanderson, C R Spencer. A M Warrington.

Spencer. A M Warrington.

13+ Awards
Allenbourds: J L Phipps. All Hallows: K E
Roberts. Ballard Lake Prep: G N Musetti. E
C Ward. Bournemouth School for Galvir G A
Found. Cantle Court: J E Cullim. E R L
Evans. E K Jervis. O D Kinahan. M H
Knott, C E Shakespeare. S M G Webb.
Clayesmore Prep: R E Collin. Dumpton: A R
Batchelor. O J Oduba. L R Sanders. J A
Thomasson. J F Wallis. Duriston Court: D
H Warren. Fornes Sandle Manor: D N C
Borner. A McM Marriott. Monton Combe
Jnr. C J Spencer. Mount House: J F Bialick.
Northeside: H J Steer. The Old Malthouse: M
R Lamplit. M E S Tomkins. The Pilgrims\*: C
E A Albin. Port Regis: S C P Baxter, J H
Filbey, Prebendal: F C C Fergusson. H W
P Forgusson. Twyford: R M Crossley. West
Hill Park: T G Cledwyn, C P Martin. O N
McLaron.

**Culford School** The Summer Term begins today. The Oxbridge Forum is on Friday, May 7, and the Higher Education Conference on Friday, May 14. The lst XI will play the MCC on Thursday, May 13, Lord Cadogan will present the prizes on Open. Day, Saturday, May 22. The Preparatory School Production of Bugsy Malone will take place in the Theatre Royal, Bury St Ed-munds on Thursday, June 10 -Saturday, June 12. The Summer Ball is on Saturday, July 3, and the Term ends on Wednesday, July 7, with the Preparatory School Prizegiving.

The Portsmouth Grammar School

Term began on April 19. Events in the school's National Year of Reading partnership project in-

BIRTHS: Henry Fielding, novel-ist, Sharpham Park, Somerset,

1707; Immanuel Kant, philoso

pher, Konigsberg, Germany, 1724;

Phil May, cartoonist, Wortley,

Yorkshire, 1864; Vladimir Ilyich

Lenin, Russian revolutionary lead-

er, Simbirsk (Ulyanovski, 1870:

Alexander Kerensky, Prime Minis-

ter of Russia, 1917, Simbirsk, 1881;

Sergei Prokofiev, composer, Sont-sovka, Ukraine, 1891; Vladimir

Nabokov, novelist, St Petersburg

cist and pioneer of the atom bomb,

New York. 1904; Kathleen Ferrier,

contraito, Higher Walton, Lanca-

DEATHS: John Tradescant, travel-

ler and gardener, London, 1662;

1899: Robert Opperheimer, physi

#### School news

Gordon Kirby with schizanthus and cineraria he is exhibiting at the Harrogate spring flower show, which opens today

clude The Dickens of a City celebrations on World Book Day. April 23, and a Philosophy and Religious Studies Conference The Significance of the Book on May 14, at which speakers include Professor Keith Ward (Christ Church Oxford), Professor William Harbury (Corns. Christiam Harbury (Corns. Christ) liam Horbury (Corpus Christi College Cambridge) and Professor Paul Helm (King's College Lon-don). The 1st XI play the MCC on June 30 and term ends Founder's Day on July 9,

Edgehill College, Bideford,

Term began on Tuesday, April 20. with the Commemoration Service at 9.30am led by the College Chaplain, the Rev Peter Brant. The May Ball for Sixth Formers and Parents is to be held on Friday. May 7. The theme of this year's Sixth Form Science Conference, to be held on Friday, June 25, is Science, an ethical enterprise? Sports Day is on Saturday, June 26, and the Fere on Saturday. July 10. The College is pleased to welcome Mrs Judith Argent as Head of the Prep Department. The Prep Department Musical this Term is The Evacuees and will be performed on June 17. Prep Department Prize Day is on Saturday, July 3. Term ends on Wednesday,

The Governors are pleased to award the following Scholarships for Scotember 1999.

Prep School: 8- Scholarships: Vunessa Johson-Scott, Catherine Orgood, Michelle Stuith, Jessien Withey, School School 11- Scholarships: Gavin Barker (Academic, Schoolarships) rine Brown (Academic, Timothy Bull-codemic), Rachel Cockbarn (Academ-chard Evans (Music), Sarah Jennings

James Hargreaves, inventor of the

spinning Jenny, Nottingham, 1778; Thomas Rowlandson, caricaturist.

London, 1827: Richard Trevithick,

pioneer of the locomotive engine,

Dartford, 1833: Sir Henry Camp-

bell-Bannerman, Prime Minister

1905-08, London, 1908; Roy Campbell, poet, Selubal, Portugal, 1957.

Sirius, a British packet steamer,

was the first steam-ship to cross the Atlantic to New York from

The British lone yachtsman Robin

Knox-Johnston completed his solo

non-stop circumnavigation of the world in 312 days, 1969.

El coins were introduced into

Britain, replacing paper notes,

England, 1838.

1935.

**Anniversaries** 

Sports, Alexander Purie (Academic), Mar-garet Sanders (Academic), Hanna Sread (Sports), Duniel Smith (Academic) & Music, Claire Taskis (Academic), Helen Watson (Academic) Music, Us. Paris Music, Us. Paris Music,

11+ Exhibitions: Rachel Haines (Sports). mick.
Sixth Form Academic Scholarships: Hannah Arnold. Melissa Auvray. Antonia
Bungery, Abigail Derren, Chlor de Groot.
Karen Mott. Frances Marin. Claire Purser.
Richie Wong.
Sixth Form Academic Exhibition: Charlone
Cann. Claire Hutchings.

St Leonards School & Sixth Form

College St Katharines School Term began on April 20 and ends on July 6. The guest speaker at the St Leonards Speech Day will be Rebecca Stephens, the first British woman to climb Everest.

St Leonards Sixth Form College will be co-educational as from September 1999 and St Katharines School is now fully co-educational. The College has three residences known as Ollerenshaw, Bishop-shall and The Lodge, Ollerenshaw (formerly the Upper Sixth Form House), has been named after St Leonards President, Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw. Recent refur-bishment of Bishopshall has provided an additional 54 study bedrooms.

The Rey John Murdoch, presently Minister of Glamis, has been appointed Chaplain and will take up his post in September 1999. Dr Angus MacEwan, currently at the United College of the Adriatic in Italy, an International sixth form college, has been appointed Head of Biology and Warden of The

Lodge, Dr MacEwan will take up his post in September 1999.

The Dowager Head of the School is Julia Skorupska and the acting Head, Sarah Gordon. The Dowager Captain is Carriona Knight and the acting Captain.

Scholarships and Exhibitions for the 1999-2000 session have

been awarded as follows:

Stath Form College Entrance Scholarship - Kate Krox (St Leonards). Stoth Form College Entrance Scholarship - Kate Krox (St Leonards). Stoth Form College Entrance Etahibition - Iona Kright (St Leonards). Lisa Massie (St George's Romet. Entry at 12- Emily Roff [St Katharines). Christianu Spens (Croll Primary). Emily Ventress (St Katharines). Emiry at 13- Anna Magdalino (New Park). Eugenie Younger (New Park). Helen Cooke (Rockport). Alison Fok (St Leonards). Art Scholarships - Annabella Rorbes (Croftinloan). Isla Tulloch (St Leonards). Drama Award - Anna Magdalino (New Park). Spon Scholarship - Maria Milton St Leonards). Music Scholarship - Mary Erstine (New Park). Music Exhibition - Alexandra Murdoch (Arrivock). St Katharines Cenenary Scholarship - Alexandra Bryam (St Katharines).

The inaugural SLGA St Leonards Under 16s Golf Tournament been awarded as follows:

ards Under 16s Golf Tournament took place at Drumoig, near St Andrews, on April 8 and 9, 1999. An Open Day will be held for

parents and prospective pupils oo Friday, May 21, 1999.

St Mary's School, Caine

The Summer Term begins today with Camilla Bunery continuing as Head Girl. The 125 Appeal for the Swimming Pool and Sports Hall was launched in March and a number of parents' receptions will be held throughout the term. An Open Day for prospective Sixth Form candidates for entry in September 2000 will be held at the school on the morning of Saturday, May 22. Details can be obtained from the Registrar. The Lower Sixth Play The Visit by Friedrich Durrenmatt will take place in the Delscey Burns Theatre on May 27 and 28. Founders' Day is on Saturday, June 26, and term ends on Wednesday, July 7.

#### Church news

The Rev Sue Strutt, Team Vicar, Ledbury (Hereford): to be also Adviser on Women in Ministry (same diocese). The Rev Martin Webster. Vicar,

Nazeing All Saints w St Giles, and Rural Dean of Harlow (Chelmsford): to be Team Rector, Waitham Holy Cross (same diocese). The Rev Dr Adrian Youngs, Assistant Curate, Dorking St Paul (Guildford): to be Senior Curate, South Croydon Emmanuel (South-

wark). Retirements and resignations The Rev Peter Beech, Vicar, Lation St Mary (Chelmsford) to retire April 30. The Rev Philip Mortimer SSC.

(Wakefield) to retire June 30. The Rev John Fearn, Christian Giving Adviser (Hereford) redred March 2 The Rev Mary Somervell, NSM, Loppington w Newtown (Lichfield) to retire May 15.

Vicar, Staincliffe Christ Church

Reception

British Safety Council Sir Neville Purvis, Director-General of the British Safety Council. was the host at a reception held esterday at Armourers' Hall for the Council's Diploma in Safety Management, Diploma in Environmental Management and Five Star Health and Safety Management System Audit Awards.

## **Forthcoming** marriages

and Miss N.J. Bayes The engagement is announced between Malcolm, son of Mr L Barr and Mrs A. Burrill, of Yorkshire, and Nicola, daughter of

Mr and Mrs David Bayes, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire. Mr R.A.B. Deff and Miss I.M. Buckley The engagement is announced between Roderick Alistair

Mr M.I. Barr

Buchanan, son of Mr and Mrs Alistair Duff, of Southwaite, Cumbria, and Isabel Mary, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Buckley, of Merivale, Masterton, Mr S.J. Edwards

The engagement is announced between Sieven, son of Mr and Mrs John Edwards, of Billingham, and Julie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Haslam, of Harrow. Mr O.J. Farrant and Miss E.C. Bridgeman

and Miss J.M. Haslam

The engagement is announced between Oliver, younger son of Mr Malcolm Parrant, of Easton-in-Gordano, North Somerset, and of Mrs David Ireson, of Bathampton, Somerset, and Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Bridgeman, of Plymouth, Devon. Mr R.J. Gregor and Miss D.M. Long

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr Donald Gregor and the late Mrs Julie Gregor, of Ballina, New South Wales, Australia, and Deborah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roland Long, of Poole, Dorset. Mr P.S. Lascelles

and Miss C.V. Winlaw The engagement is announced between Peregrine, younger son of the late Mr Giles Lascelles and of Mrs Giles Lascelles, of Clapham, London, and Victoria, eldest daughter of Mr Antony Winlaw, of Ascott, Warwickshire, and Mrs Carole Winlaw, of Chieveley. **Rerkshire** 

Mr TJ.O. Morgan and Miss R.E. Duncan

The engagement is announced between Tudor, younger son of Mr and Mrs John Morgan, of Porth-cawl, Glamorgan, and Rachel, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Angus Duncan, of Emsworth, Hampshire, formerly of Feckenham, Worcestershire.

Mr O. Plunket Greene and Miss B.F. Montagu The engagement is announced between Orlando, son of Mrs Mary Plunket Greene, and Bona, daughter of the Hon Robert and Mrs Montagu,

and Miss S.V. Coc The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Mr Edward Pocock, of Crockham Hill.

Kent, and Mrs June Killick, of Hurst Green, Surrey, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Coe, of South Petherton, Somerset.

Mr C.M. Read and Miss S.A. Williams The engagement is announced between Christopher (Kit), younger son of Mr and Mrs Martin Read, of Barton-upon-Humber, North Lincolnshire, and

Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Williams, of Hopton Castle,

Mr A.W. Riley

and Miss C.C. Robinson The engagement is announced between Alan, only son of the late Mr W.A. Riley and of Mrs Riley, of London, and Colleen, only daughter of the late Mr G.M.O. Robinson and of Mrs Robinson, of Bath.

Mr A.F. Wilks

and Miss E.C.G. Murtin The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mrs Wilks and the late Mr Guy Wilks, of Leighton Buzzard, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Murfin, of Tong Norton, Shrop-

Marriages Mr J. Borradaile and Miss C.R. Cox

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 17, at St Peter and St Paul, Broadwell, Gloucestershire, of Mr James Borradaile, son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs R.G. Borradaile, of Radlet House, Spax-ton, Somerset, and Miss Camilla ton, somerset, and whos Catheria Rosemary Cox, elder daughter of the late Brigadier Charles Cox and of Mrs Charles Cox, of Broadwell House, Lechlade, Gloucestershire. The Rev Christopher Rawson offici-

The bride, who was given in marriage by her brother. Major Christopher Cox. was attended by Edwina Cox, Flora Merton. Evangeline Eckersley, Kitty Mayo, Jack Pilkington and Charles Sumption. Mr Jonathan Sumption was best

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honey-moon is being spent abroad.

Mr D.R.B. Thompson and Miss J. Craddock The marriage took place quietly on March 24, 1999, between Mr Robin Thompson and Miss Jane

#### **Dinners**

Carmen's Company The Princess Royal attended the Carmen's Company annual Royal Logistic Corps awards dinner held logistic Con a wards infect that has night at Plaisterers' Hall, Mr J.A.T. Saywell, Master, presided, assisted by Mr J.M. Silbermann, Senior Warden, and Mr B.H. Owen, Junior Warden.

The Master presented the Car-men's Sword of Honour for 1999 to Lieutenant G.C. Lowth, RLC, and the Royal Logistic Corps Safety Award 1998 to BRAKE for their work in promoting road safety. Brigadier T. Dalby-Welsh, Direc-tor of The Royal Logistic Corps, also spoke.

Professor Malcolm Troup, Master

of the Musicians' Company, presented the company's Silver Medal for services to choral music to Sir David Willcocks at a dinner held last night at Armourers' Hall. The Walter Wilson Cobbett Medal was presented to Mr Richard Sotnick in recognition of his services to chamber music. Actuaries' Company

Mr Alderman and Sheriff Gavyn Arthur and Mr Sheriff and Mrs Brian Harris were present at the annual dinner of the Actuaries Company held last night at the Mansion House. Mr A.S. Fishman, Master, assisted by Mr S.J. Green and Mr P.D. Esslemont, Wardens, presided and presented

the Sheriffs with a cheque for the Lord Mayor's Appeal for Leuka 2000. Mr Michael Portillo, Mr Arthur and Mr Alan Hall also spoke. The Masters of the Scriveners' and Tobacco Pipe Makers' and Tobacco Blenders' Companies and their ladies were among those 1912 Club

Mr Michael Howard, QC, MP, was the guest of honour at a dinner of the 1912 Club held yesterday at the House of Commons, by courtesy of Mr David Amess, MP, chairman of the club. Mrs Felicity Hallwood also spoke.

weening

Royal Institute of International Affairs

Ambassador Jacques Paul Klein, Principal Deputy High Representa-tive for Implementation of the Dayton Accords, Sarajevo, was the speaker at a meeting of the Royal Institute of International Affairs held yesterday at Chatham House. Sir David Hannay presided.

Luncheon Securities fustitute

Lord Hurd of Westwell, CH. was the principal guest at a luncheon of the Securities Institute held yesterday at Centurion House, City of London, Mr Graham Ross Russell, chairman, presided.

OWNSEND - John Harvey Knox oo April 16th. Remembered with much love by Mary, John, Donald, Joe, Desmond, Niall, Margaret, Rose, and also greatypes converted

use everyone connecte with Tower House Sch

A thanksgiving service will be held at

AUGHAN - Walthan

Christchurch, East Sheen oo 17th June at 3.00pm. No flowers please, donations to RNTB.

peacefully on 18th April 1999 in Royal South Hants Hospital aged 67 years. Much loved husband of Eleanor. Funeral Service

to be held at Southamptor

Flowers and enquiries c/o Co-operative Funeral Service, St Mary's Road, Southampton, tel: (01703)

WALKER - Margaret E.R. (Peggy) oo April 17th 1999 aged 97 in e Wincanton N.H. Widow of Captain

Crematorium on sec. 26th April at 3.30 pm.

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#### BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

#### PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE; 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

# O come, int us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Psalm 95.1 (AV).

#### BIRTHS

ALDERSON - On April 20th 1999 Io Elizabeth (née Kay) and David, o son, Benjamin Joshua Hugh,

BASTA - Oo 17th April at The Portland Hospital,

The Portland Hospital, to Portla Kamons and Victo Basta, a son, Cole Abbon, brother to Max and Eli. BSMOP - On April 8th in Cambridge, to Samantha and Michael, a daughter, Annabelle Sophle, o sister for Holls

BROOKS - On Sunday 18th April et The Royal Londo Hospital, to Tracy and Andy, a daughter.

CAREY - On April 20th at The Portland Hospital, to Tasneem (Baten) and Robert, a daughter, Ava. a sister for Riyad.

DIAZ-PINTADO - On April 17th at The Portland Hospital, to Margarita Lopez-Chicheri and Olaf, a son, Olaf, our first child. Many kirses to the family.

FOSTER/LIPSHAM - To Melissa Foster and Pos Lipsham, on April 16th, o splendid son, o brother for the occhanting Emily, (born April 30th 1996). April 16th to Gohowen, Shropshire, to Emmy, wife of Julian Freeman-

## BIRTHS

ISSELL - On April 16th at The Portland Hospital, to Susan and Mason, a daughter, Caitlin, a sister for Bradley and Matthew, EE - On Tuesday 20th April to Joseph and Lakmini mee Buluwala), a son, Thomas Arjuna.

NOKES - On April 16th 1999 to Bells (née Colville) and Humphrey, a son, Ben. RAZAK - On April 12th at The Portland Hospital, to Agiles and Nazir tades Azline and Nezir, twins, Armen and Marisse. Arman and Mariasa.

SAMOUEL - On 18th April
1999 at St Thomas's
Hospital, to Andriana and
Andros, a beautiful son,
Jack Spyros (7ibs 13cz).

SCHRAGER von ALTISHOFEN
- On 16th April 1999, to
Nickie and Charles, o
daughter, Frederica
Leonora Hollyhock, a
sister for Vittoria.

WILLIAMS/HONEY - Oo April Christopher, 2 zon, San Elliott Owen. Grateful thanks to the Hammeremith Hospital specially the IVF Unit.

DIAMOND **ANNIVERSARIES** 

22nd April 1939 et Cape Town Cathedral, Kennet to Joyce, Now at Oxtad.

GOLDEN **ANNIVERSARIES** Douglas and Dorothy April 22nd 1949 at St Gabriel's, Heaton,

Newcastle upon Tyne Conducted by the Rev

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

DEATHS

BEMROSE - Margaret, widow of John and mother of Geoffrey, died peacefully at Highgats Nursing Home after suffering the effects of a sewere stroke for a year with characteristic dignity and courage. Funeral at 1.00am Friday 30th April, St Marylebone Crematorium. No llowers please. Enquiries and donations (to Eden Hail Hospica, Hampstead in memory of Margaret and John Bemrose) to Cocksey and Sons, 190 Fortis Creen Road, Londoo N10.1Phono

BREHENY - On April 19th peacefully at his home in Barsham, Suffolk, after a long illness, John (Jack) Thomas aged 83 years. Loving husband of Betty. dear Dad of Sandra. Heather and John, o much loved grandfather and great-grandfather. Loved and remembered always. and remembered always.
Funeral Service at St
Benet's Minster, Beccles o
Wedneaday April 28th at
I lam, followed by
interment in the
hysokusord Entrills churchvard, Family flowers only please but donations in lieu if desi-for The May Centre fo the disabled of Beccles R. Rivett Ltd., Caxtoo

Road Beccles NR34 9DF

Road, London N10. 1Phone 0181 883 4844).

CLETE-JORES - Germaine
Jeanno on 17th April 1999
oged 98 years. Widow of
Jack and mother of the lata
Roger. Much loved
mother-in-law,
grandmother and greatgrandmother. Requiem
Mass The Oratory.
Edgbeston, Birmingham,
Friday 30th April al
12.45pm, followed by
private cremation. Family
flowers only.

COOPER - Frances (née COOPER - Frances (née
Price) formerly of
Headington, Oxford,
widow of Norman, beloved
mother of Andrew, Robert
and Alissos and
grandmother of Owato
and Yvonne Clare died
peacefully on Saturday
17th April 1999 aged 82
years. Funeral Service at
St Mary the Virgin. High

years. Funeral Service at St Mary the Virgin, High Street, Oxford on Wednesday 28th April at 3 pm. Enquiries to Baker & Sons, Funeral Directors COX - Norman Arthur on COX: Norman Arthur on 19th April aged 71, dearly beloved husband of Pamela and much loved fother of Nigel, Glands and Nicholas, a loving Papa of his grandchildren Paul and Emily, Funcral service on Thursday 28th April et 1 Manue 8 service on Australy 1st April at 1.30pm at St John's Church, Buckhurst Hill followed by burial at Chlowers or donations, if desired, to Leukaemia

Research Fund, c/o Warriners, 32 Church Hill, Loughton, Essex. CUNTIFFE - Alan W. MBE, died 17th April 1999 aged 85 years. Funeral Service at the West London Crematorium oo Friday 23rd April at 4.00pm.

DAY - John R. (Journey, a long illness, died peacefully on April 17th. Loved husband of Gaye DAY - John R. (Johnny) after Loved husband of Gaye and much loved lather of Christopher and proud grandpa of Claire. Funera at Randalls Park Cramstorium. Leatherhead oo Tuesday 27th April at 11.30 am. Family Bowers only. Donastons if desired to Cancer Research.

TOFFAY - Kathleen Mary d'OFFAY - Kathleen Mary (née West), tormerly wife of T.M.J. d'Offay, mother of Suzanna and Anthony, grandmother of Timothy. Hannah, Sarah. Daniel and Miki, died on April 18th ot Midhurst aged 90. Paneral at Chichester Crematorium, West Hamnnett Road. Crematorium, West Hampnett Road, Chichester, on Wednesday April 28th at 3.30 pm. Flowers to L.F. Lintott & Son, North Street, Midhurst, tel: 101730) 813284.

GAMMELL - James G.S. Gammell MBE CA Gammell MBE CA
suddenly of home, Foxhall,
Kirkliston oo 19th April.
Jim Gemmell aged 79,
darling husband of Sue,
loving father of Jamle.
Andrew, Jenny, Bill,
Patrick and Pete, proud
and adored grandfother of
thirteen, friend and
counsellor in many.
Service of Thanksgiving in
St Mary's Cathedral,
Palmerston Place,
Edinburgh on Monday
26th April at 1 lam to
which all are welcome.
Cremation thereafter
private. No flowers please private. No flowers ple

GOOCH - On April 19th,
Captain Sir John Gooch
Bart of Benacra. Beloved
brother of Timothy and
Anne and much loved
Uocle. Puneral at St
Nicholas Church.
Wrentham at 3.00pm on
Tuesday 27th April
followed by private
interment. No flowers
please but donations if
desired to the Parkinaso's
Disease Society c/o
Flabers Ltd, Funeral
Directors, Fleidstyle Road,

HALLISSY - Dr Donal (Don), former GP in West Bromwich, died suddenly hot peacafully to his 55th year at home on April 18th 1999. Dearly beloved father of Rosemary and grandfather of Antonia and Christians. Regelom Mass on Tuesday April 27th at 51 Augustine's Church, Avenue Road. West Bromwich at 11.15am followed by cremation at West Bromwich Crematorium at 12.30pm.

SSUP - Sarah May

ESSUP - Sarah May
(Maisie), formerly of
Babworth Rectory, died on
19th April 1999. Dearly
loved by her late husbood
Ted, mother of Rossmary
and William, mother-inlaw to Jan and
grandmother to Amy, Jo,
Laurie and Ben. Sho will
be much missed. Funeral
Service will be on Monday Service will be on Monday 26th April at All Saints Church, Bebworth, Retford, Notts, at 3 pm. Flowers welcomed or if desired donations to t.T.U. Bassetlaw Hospital c/o E. Hurton & Son Ltd.. 73 Grove Street, Retiond. Grove Street, Retiord, DN22 6LA, Iel: (01777) Donations in lieu to your

AKE - On 19th April, Rosalie Ariel, wife of the late William Lake, moch loved mother and grandmother. Private grandmother. Private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to the Halliwell Nursing Home, Tunbridge Wells. A service of Thanksgiving will be held at The Church of St John the Beptist, Penshurst on 9th May at 2.30 pm.

> LOCINER - Eleanor
> Margaret, dear wife of
> Ludi and much loved
> member of the Lochner
> and Lechmers-Certel
> families, died peacefully
> at home on Tuesday April
> 20th Eugen Sander 20th. Funeral Service on Wednesday April 28th at 11 am at Godalming Park Church Donations in lieu of flowers in the Meath Soc. 55 Hare Lan

LYNN - On April 12th, suddenly of home, Bylvia, aged 94. Dear sister of Mollie. Funeral Service at St Johns Church, Tunhridge Wells, on Wednesday April 28th at 2.30 pm. Donations if wished to Mildmay Mission Hospital at Shoreditch or Venn House. Boyne Park, Tuchridge Boyne Park, Tuchridge Wells.

To place death notices acknowledgements or notices please call

MACPHAE. - Mary, peacefully at Marriott House in Chichester so 20th April 1999. Beloved wife of the late David. Loving mother of Moira, Kain and Richard, mother-in-law to John, Chris and Maggia and grandmother to Jo. and grandmother to Jo. Andrew. Chizzy and Jack

Andrew. Chizzy and Jack.
'A great reader to the end'. Funeral service,
Chichester Crematorium Thursday, 29th April at 11.30 am. Family Howers only. Donations for the National Asthma Campaign may be sent to Edward White & Son, 5 South Pallant. Chichester PO19 1SY. MAIDERS - Alan Roy (1924-1999) on Monday April 19th after a short illness bravely fought. Devoted husbend of Pegi.

proud father of John proud father of John,
Philip and Louise and
father-in-law to Victoria,
Sarah-Jane and John,
beloved Grandpa (Ba-Ba)
to Freddie, Millie and
Charlotta, Grastly loved
hy his family and all who
knew him, be will be
missed desperately.
Funeral to take place on
Wednasday April 28th or Funeral to take place on Wednesday April 28th at 3.00pm at \$i Mark's Church, Church Road, Purley, Surrey followed by a private family cremation. No flowers please, If wished donations toward the Bed Flanagan Loukeenla Ward, Cheques payable to The Royal Marsden Hospital and seni to J B Shakespeare Ltd, 67 Goorge Bireet, Croydon, CRO LLD.

0171 680 6880

17th April 1999 aged 57.
Much loved husbaod of
Juda and fother of Lucy
and Alice, Funeral service
tomorrow, Friday 23rd
April at St James Church
Shere at 3.00pm. No
flowers please.

PROCTOR - Colio St. Clair.
oo April 20th, peacefully
at home. Davoted and
deeply loved husband of
Ross and adored father of
Peter and Paul. Proud ond
much loved grandfather of
Oliver, Philippa.
Alexander, Nicholas and
Sauha. Funeral service at
St James Church, Fulmer
on Thursday May Sth et. on Thursday May 6th at 11.30am, Flowers and enquiries to Arnold Fonersi Service, 38 Oak End Way, Gerrards Cross. Tal 01753 891892.

RAVEN - Dame Kathleen Annio, DBE, O.St.J., FRCN, Hon D.Litt., Hon.LL.D., former Chief Nursing Officer, Department of Health, widow of Professor Joi widow of Professor John Ingram, died on 19th April 1999, aged 88, in the Acland Hospital, Oxford. Funeral Service at St Peter and St Paul Church. enckinepa: Buckinghamahire on Tuesday, 27th April at 11.30am, Plowers or, if desired, donations for The Ronald Ravon Trust Fund may be sent in S.R. Dillamore Ltd., 16 Old Road, Linslade, Leighton Buzzard, Beds LU? 7RF. A Memorial Service in London will be arranged

idon will be arranged

W.B. Walker, Royal Navy. Loved mother of Charmian and Phyllida, grandmother To place

death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880



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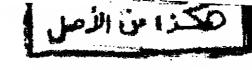
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#### **OBITUARIES**

## TIM FORSTER



Tim Forsier, OBE. National Hunt trainer, died yesterday aged 65. He was born on February, 27, 1934.

im Forster sent out three winners of the Grand National: in 1972 his own horse Well To Do; in 1980 the American-owned and ridden Ben Nevis; and in 1985 the 50-1 chance Lasi Suspect. He also won almost every other major steeplechase in the calendar, though the Cheltenham and Whitbread Gold Cups eluded

But despite all this success, Forster went through life with an air of almost permanent pessimism. How much of this was a genuine indication of his feelings and how much the cautious reaction of a man determined not to get carried away by what might happen was never easy to say. But he would greet even winners with a lugubrious comment.

Racing was in Forster's blood, for his great uncle, Bower Ismay, had owned the disqualified 1913 Derby win-ner Craganour, and his father Douglas had horses in training on the flat with Jack Waugh and Derrick and Henry Candy. Probably the

best of his several winners was Light Harvest, who won the Wokingham Stakes at Royal Ascot in 1956.

Tim Forster's almost inevitable enthusiam for racing was kindled further during his days at Ludgrove and Eton. During his time in the Army he rode his two winners (from only five rides) under rules at Hexham in 1959.

He began training in 1962 after pupil and assistant spells with Geoffrey Brooke and Derrick Candy, Later that year he bought the yard in Ler-combe Basset in Oxfordshire where Ron Vibert had briefly trained after the death of the yard's previous encumbent.

Tom Yales.

The following year he sent out his first winner, at no less a meeting than the Cheltenham Festival, where Baulking Green won the United Hunts' Cup, a race the horse was to take in the next two seasons as well. For all his tendency to make horrendous mistakes. Baulking Green was one of the star hunter chasers of his day. and he also won the Horse & Hound Cup at Stratford on three occasions.

His first Cheltenham success came in the year before

that Festival. In 1964 Take at Cheltenham initiated a Plenty, ridden by Ron Vibert, won the Mildmay of Flete Chase. Take Plenty was owned by Hugh Sumner, a stalwart supporter of jumping for many years, and his example was followed with equal relish by his son John and daughter-in-law Heather.

هكذا من الأص

Sadly, Mrs Sumner died in 1971 just three days before her father-in-law, but in her will she left instructions that Forster should choose one of her horses to carry his colours. He chose Well To Do, who vindi-cated his new owner's judgment by galloping through mud and driving rain to win the 1972 Grand National, ridden by Forster's long-serv-ing stable jockey Graham Thorner, 10 beat the 1970

winner Gray Trip. In the same year Forster won another Mildmay of Flete Chase with Mocharabuice, whose owner Mrs "Plum" Carew Pole, was a daughter of the one-time senior steward of the Jockey Club, Lord Leverhulme. Forster won Chelten-ham's Grand Annual Chase for him with Casbah and was also successful for him at Liverpool with Mr Snowman.

In 1973 the success of Denvs Adventure in the Arkle Chase

notable double for his trainer and his owner Vi Henriques, since they also won the Kim Muir Chase that year with Hinterland. Forster took that amateur riders' race six years later with Redundant Punter. Forster's second Grand Na-

tional triumph came in the atrocious conditions of 1980: the race would probably have been called off anywhere else. Of 30 who set off, 21 were standing at halfway but only four finished, as Ben Nevis, ridden by the American amateur Charlie Fenwick, won by 20 lengths at 40-1. He had been well fancied the previous year but ran very badly before being pulled up.

Last Suspect's success at 50-l in the colours of Arkle's owner. Anne Duchess of Westminster, in 1985, was down very much to the persuasive longue of the stable jockey Hywel Davies. He talked the Duchess into running the horse, and the moody Last Suspect finished too well for Mr Snugfii and Corbiere.

Forsier won the the 1974 Hennessy Gold Cup and the 1976 King George VI Chase with John Sumner's Royal Marshal II. Other big races to come the stable's way during that decade were the Mandarin and Charterhouse Chases. which he won with Master Spy: the Reynoldstown, with Drumadowney, who was fourth in the Cheltenham Gold Cup in that novice season; and the Tingle Creek.

with Lefrak City.
His star of the 1980s was
Pegwell Bay, who became the first horse to pull off the double of the two big autumn chases at Cheltenham when he won the Mackeson Gold Cup (now the Murphys) and the AF Budge (formerly the Massey-Ferguson and now, after several changes, the Tripleprint Gold Cup in 1988.

Early in 1994 Forster surprised the racing world by declaring that he was to move for the next season from Letcombe Rasset to a yard at Downtown Hall near Ludlow. But any indication that a change of base would be followed by a lower success rate was shown to be mistaken in his very first season at the new yard, when Dublin Flyer won the Tripleprint Gold Cup at Chelienham and the John

Hughes Chase at Liverpool.
The following season Dublin Flyer won the Mackeson at Chelienham and the injury-prone but very talented Marthats Son included the Victor Chandler and Comet Chases at Ascot among his successes. In 1996-97 Martha's Son proved himself the star of the two-mile chases by taking the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham and the Mumm Melling Chase at Liverpool, and there was yet another Cheltenham victory when Maamur won the Na-

donal Hunt Handicap Chase.

Tim Forster's final major success as a public trainer came in 1998 when Wandering Light won the National Hunt Chase at Cheltenham, Within two months of that victory Forster had decided that he was to reore at the end of that season and train some pointto-point horses at a vard nearby. His assistant Henry Daly took over at Downton. Forster's 36 years with a licence had made him hugely

popular in the steeplechasing world. His modesty and self-mocking humour as he banled against multiple sclerosis and cancer, and his innue pleasure in training brave, and often very able horses, means

that every winner he sent out was hugely popular. Forsier was appointed OBE in the last new year's honours. He never married.

#### SIR LAURENCE KIRWAN

Sir Laurence Kirwan, KCMG, Director and Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, 1947-75, died on April 16 aged 91. He was born on May 13, 1907.

LAURENCE KIRWAN was known to explorers, travellers and geographers all over the world for both his enthusiasm for scientific exploration and his encouragement of the young. As Director and Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, he took a large part in the selection of its presidents and the shaping

Realising that the days of amateur exploration were ending, he introduced a new rigour in the gathering and analysis of scientific evidence of all kinds, as well as overseeing a great increase in commercial sponsorship. He succeeded in bringing logether the somewhat disparate interests of explorers and academics, and under his guidance the Royal Geographical Society. acted as a broker between British univer-sities and a host of governments and university departments overseas.

Laurence Patrick Kirwan came from an old Galway family, the Kirwans of Cregg. His father, Patrick, was a Shakespearean actor and producer of some note. Larry, as he was always called, was educated at Wimbledon School and at Merton College, Oxford. His academic career at university was undistinguished — but this was due rather to his wealth of other interests than to any absence of talent. He left without a degree, but rectified the omission by taking an Oxford B.Litt. in

When he came down, his early interest in archaeology led him to contact Sir Flinders Petrie, the Professor of Egyptology at London University, who reinforced an enthusiasm which lasted a lifetime. A season in Egypt working for the British Museum led to his appointment in 1929 as assistant director of the Egypoan Government's archaeological survey of Nubia, undertaken as a preliminary to the raising of the Aswan

From 1934 to 1937, Kirwan was field director of Oxford University expedicions to the Sudan, and from 1937 to 1939 he held the Tweedie Fellowship in Archaeology and Anthropology at Edinburgh University, which involved extensive fieldwork. He joined the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers in 1938, and served throughout the



Second World War, from 1942 to 1945 on the Joint Staffs, Offices of the Cabinet and Ministry of Defence.

In 1947 he accepted the post of Director and Secretary of the Royal Geographical Society, with the support of the President. the traveller and diplomat Lord Rennell. Although his appointment was to prove an Some people, including the Polar veteran Sir James Wordie, were never reconciled to seeing the directorship offered to one outside the specialised coterie dominated for decades by Kirwan's predecessor, the mathematician A. R. Hinks. The staff, too. being accustomed to Hinks's paternalistic rule, were sometimes puzzled by Kirwan's more detached and lofty attitude.

These were, however, small matters compared to the sustained dedication to the society which distinguished his period in office. The expeditions that he helped to establish included an ecological inventory of an area of Kenya led by Richard Leakey and Malcolm Coe, and, subsequently, under Robin Hanbury-Tenison, a survey of Mulu Nacional Park in Malaysia, which led to recommendations for the future management of tropical

forests. Kirwan's time in the Cabinet Offices, at the heart of the Brirish war effort, had familiarised him with the working of

government departments and with the ways of the media. The experience stood him in good stead, whether in negotiating subsidies for the RGS map room or in stimulating official and public interest in

exploration. The successful ascent of Everest in 1953 and the crossing of Antarctica in 1957-58 both owed much to Kirwan's work behind the scenes. He never forgot, however, that big projects grow out of little ones, and he gave constant and practical encouragement to student expeditions. He was always more of a historian than a geographer, a bent which showed in his enthusiasm for the cataloguing of the society's manuscripts and relics, and in his history of Polar exploration. The White Road in 1959.

Kirwan travelled often, maintaining his archaeological interests and publishing regularly in learned journals. Between 1958 and 1961 he acted as adviser to the Sudanese Government over the imminent flooding of Nubian antiquities by Egypt's High Dam.

His presidency of the British Institute in East Africa took him to Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania in the 1960s, and he visited South America in 1966 as leader of the field mission for the court of arbitration in the Argentine-Chile Frontier case, of which he was a member.

His routine was further varied by his appointment in 1968 to the advisory committee on the landscaping of trunk roads. He was appointed CMG in 1958 and KCMG in 1972. On his retirement in 1975 the Royal Geographical Society awarded him its Founder's Medal.

Kirwan was a man of contrasting moods, and one could never be sure which would predominate. Some found him unpredictable, but most were prepared to accept the occasional unmerited snub or disconcerting change of mind for the sake not only of acts of kindness which were equally typical, but because he was

excellent company.

He was a splendid raconteur, delight ing in the ludicrous and unexpected. About his own disappointments and anxieties he was commendably reticent,

and he never bore a grudge.

He was married twice. The first marriage, in 1932, to Joan Chetwynd, was dissolved. Then, in 1942, he married Stella Monck, but she died in 1997. He is survived by the daughter of his first marriage.

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#### DOROTHEA BROOKING

Dorothea Brooking. children's television producer, died on March 23 aged 82. She was born on December 7, 1916.

ONE of a generation of forceful, independent women who helped to shape the BBC after the war. Dorothea Brooking was the producer behind a succession of serialisations on children's television from the 1950s into the 1970s. Her best work included The Railway Children and three versions of Frances Hodgson Burnett's The Secret Garden.

Her adaptations were notably true to the spirit of the originals, and her casting gave breaks to several young tal-ents. Prunella Scales took the part of Martha, the Yorkshire maid, in her second Secret Garden: Susan Hampshire played Katy the New England tomboy in What Katy Did; and Richard O'Callaghan was Little Lord Fauntierry.

Dorothea Brooking had originally wanted to be an actress, and trained at the Old Vic in its glory days in the 1930s. She worked there in niles" such as Viola in Twelfth Night - almost up to the outbreak of war, when she joined the Ministry of Information. in the meantime she had married the actor John Frank-

lin, with whom she had a son. While Franklin was away in Africa, she was sent to China, where she was attached to the British Embassy in Shanghai (and found time to act in Richard II). She worked in the office of the press attache, which ran a radio starion, and there she began writing and producing. She was in the middle of producing a serial thriller for the station when the Japanese forced the British



Dorothea Brooking rehearsing with penguin puppets for a television show in 1952

to leave, and wryly reflected that she never knew how it would have ended.

When she returned to England in 1943, she joined the BBC's European Service as a continuity announcer.

with the corporation, and in 1950 she was recruited for the new Children's Hour on television. "They asked me when I was interviewed what I would like to do for children," she recalled. "I said I would like to serialise some of the best loved children's stories. 'Name two.' they said." So she suggested The Railway Children and The Secret Garden, which were to be her first adaptations. The part of Martha in The Secret Garden in 1951 was played by Billie Whitelaw.

Brooking enjoyed working with children - "they are so professional" - and took particular care to see that her

young actors understood every line they had to speak. The success of these early serials set the standard for children's weekly television, and Brooking went on to produce Great Expectations, Thursday's Child, Little Women, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, The Prince and the Pauper and several others

over the next two decades. A tough, self-possessed woman, she took the job seriously, feeling a responsibility both to the authors whose work she adapted and to her viewers, and she was concerned, in later years, about the blunting of sensibilities by screen violence and horror. Occasionally, over the years, she returned to the theatre, spending short spells in repertory. She also wrote some radio plays under the pen name Darrell Wilde. At the end of the 1960s, the

BBC's provision for children

changed, and for six years Brooking moved into the schools programming. But in 1974 she returned to her old patch by remaking The Treasure Seekers, and the following year she dramatised The

Having divorced in 1951, she moved in the early 1960s to live with Wilfred Synge at Nutley in Sussex. His wife refused a divorce, however, so Brooking changed her name by deed poll to placate the village. A wedding was finally arranged for 1971, but Synge died two weeks before it was due to take place.

Brooking formally retired from the BBC at the end of the 1970s, but continued to work there as a freelance - on children's and historical programmes — until the mid

She is survived by her son.

## PERSONAL COLUMN

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MARDEN - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Marden will be held at St Mary Abbots Church, Kensington High Street, on Tuesday 25th

#### HERO DE RANCE

Hero de Rance, pianist and soogwriter, died on April 11, aged 99. She was born on July 21, 1899.

FOR more than 50 years. West End theatregoers were entertained during their intervals by a bubbly red-headed pianist. Seated in the orchestra pit. Hero de Rance would tinkle out melodies by stalwarts such as Ivor Novello and Noël Coward while patrons enjoyed their coffees and ice creams.

She played in every London theatre except the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and actors asked in their contracts for her to play at their shows because

she had a reputation for bringing good luck. Audiences recognising her red hair would give her a round of applause. Named Hero by her mother

after the character in Much Ado About Nothing, she started in variety at the age of ten and often appeared on stage with her sister. She worked as a "plugger" for other people's songs and eventually her own. Her best known composition

was You're Mine, written in 1937 to words by Bruce Sevier and featured by the Austrian tenor Richard Tauber. It became her theme song and during the Second World War she played it to the troops.

She provided piano accompaniment for silent films before settling into her main career as a theatre pianist and composer. She continued to visit film studios, however, to sell her songs. When she started playing in theatres she was only one of several pianists in the West End, but after the death of her main rival. Clarry Ashton, in the early 1970s, she had the field to herself. She continued to play in theatres, and in the restau-rant at the Ritz Hotel undl

Throughout her life she was determined to help fellow composers to protect their

about ten years ago.

work. She joined the Performing Right Society in 1926 and was still attending its annual general meerings in her ninedes. Unol recently she represented the society at the funerals of showbusiness personalines.

She was also one of the original council members of the Songwriters' Guild of Great Britain, now the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters, It was formed in 1947 by a group of composers aggrieved that their songs were not getting fair exposure on the BBC.

Her husband predeceased her and she had a daughter.

#### THE PLUMAGE BILL.

To the Editor of The Times Sir, - Those who attack the Plumage

Bill on behalf of the interests of certain trades connected almost entirely with millinery and the costume of very wealthy women are surely the defenders of a hopelessly lost cause. The point seems to me to be a very simple one. What are these egret plumes, these Birds of Paradise, rare kinglishers, lyre birds, argus pheasant quills, and other prophies required for? Essential operations in chemistry? In medicine, in preparation of food-stuffs, and other processes vital to the welfare of humanity? No: nothing but the satisfaction of a Palaeolithic instinct in women of little education and possibly depraved minds,. who with motives no better than the baboon or the magpie seek to clutch at strange and gaudy objects to stick them about their persons. You will never find a really refined and educated woman in any society wearing Birds of Paradise plumes, or similar spoils of an ignoble

## ON THIS DAY

April 22, 1911

Exotic feathers and furs no longer adorn women's coats, but threats 10 more ordinary birds from other dangers still exist.

chase, in her headgear. That woman and man may desire to dress beautifully is an understandable and wholesome instinct, and that plumes and feathers play a great part in such decorations no one can deny. But all that is wanted in this respect can be supplied to the full by the domesticated ostrich, by the domestic goose, fowl, duck, pigeon, peacock, turkey, Guinea fowl, and other birds kept in aviaries or in the poultry-yard; while as regards wild birds which are preserved for food purposes, such as the various forms of wild duck (provided

they are preserved), snipe and woodcock, of pheasant, partridge, and grouse, no objection is raised to the use of their plumage for any purpose, or to the eating of their bodies. But no specious arguments should be allowed for one day longer to stand in the way of the preservation of all birds all over the globe, except the two or three species actually proved to be harmful to the interests of man. When will it be realized that in killing birds we are playing a losing game in our terrible struggle with the insect class? The notion is ceasing to become fantastic that the undoubted increase of the tse-tse fly is perhaps a corollary of the work of the plumage hunters in French West Africa, Belgian, German, and British Tropical Africa. The whole question of the reasonable preservation of fauna and flora demands the three years work of an expert commission; but meantime this Plumage Bill may do something to stay the vile and wholly inexcusable slaughter of beautiful and innocent birds.

I am your obedient servant, H. JOHNSTON.

#### School massacre for Hitler

■ An anguished America grappled with the worst schoolyard massacre in its history, which left 15 dead and 16 injured. Two high school outcasts, members of the Trenchcoat Mafia gang. obsessed with Shock Rock and Nazi paraphenalia, chose the 110th anniversary of Hitler's birth to slaughter their most popular classmates with bullets and bombs......Pages 1-5

#### Blair hints at ground war

■ Increasing expectations that Nato ground troops could be sent into Kosovo before President Milosevic signs a peace deal were heightened by Tony Blair and the US Government. The Prime Minister flew to Washington for talks with President Clinton having indicated to the House of Commons before he left that a land force may be used against a "degraded" Serbian ....Pages 1, 17-20 war machine...

#### Charity crisis

Charities are spending thousands of pounds buying access to confidendal lists of millionaires in an attempt to reverse the decline in individual giving....

#### Silcott campaign

A leading member of the campaign to secure Winston Silcott's freedom, who has accused the police of racially harassing him. has another reason why officers might regard him in an unfavour-..... Page 8 able light...

#### Airline warning

Airlines issued a warning of "chaos and catastrophe" across Europe this summer as they accused the international air traffic control service of causing huge de-

#### Row in ward

Relatives of a profoundly disabled boy became involved in a violent dispute on a children's hospital ward when told that he should be allowed to die, a court was told. Doctors and police were injured in the fracas......Page 11

#### Blair's ambition

Tony Blair quesconed the assumption that he would one day serve under Gordon Brown several months before the death of John Smith in May 1994. In Mandelson: The Biography, Donald

#### Dewar's anguish

The Secretary of State for Scotland looks as if he has just committed a most terrible deed. Donald Dewar is ashen-faced and his big hands are covered in a bloodred liquid but he has something much more serious than murder in mind....

#### Teenager 'tortured'

Five young men and women systemadcally tortured a "generous and vulnerable" teenager to death over six days, a court was told. During last year's Easter holiday Angela Pearce, 18, a schizophrenic, was lured to a flat to be robbed. but the gang decided to keep her .....Page 15

#### **Nuclear theft**

American security was seriously damaged by the Chinese theft of designs for the most sophisticated nuclear warhead in the US armoury, according to a damning CIA report. It comes after a series of allegations that Chinese spies penetrated nuclear weapons laboratories in the 1980s......Page 21

#### Space holidays

Pack up your moon boots and head for the stars. According to the European Space Agency holidaymakers may be able to take trips into space in the near future and stay in hotels orbiting the Earth. Holidays on the moon Macintyre writes of a Sunday should be feasible by the middle walk in the park Page 13 of the next century Page 21

#### Queen is the toast of Korea

■ The Queen celebrated her 73rd birthday with a trip to the countryside, a glass of rice wine, an armful of trinkets and an airline lunch of cold beef. Like most women her age, she said she didn't want a fuss. But she did not escape entirely scot-free. At a concert in Seoul Lesley Garrett and a choir of Korean schoolchildren, sang Happy Birthday.....



Rosemary Harris, curator of the NatWest art collection at the Louthbury Gallery, with an entry in the Young Artists competition

Inflation risk: Wage growth unexpectedly went higher in February sparking City fears that the Bank of England will now call a halt to its rate cutting spree.....Page 29 Final frontier: After stamping his

flag on everything from pensions to

pop music, Richard Branson is

poised to take Virgin into space .... Page 29 tourism. VAT ruling: The Treasury was handed a bloody nose by the courts when a provision in last month's Budget, worth more than £100 million a year in VAT, was ruled to contravene European Law ...... Page 29 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 8.8 to 6311.0. The pound fell 0.96

cents to \$1.6065 and 0.09p against

the euro to 66.03p. The index fell to

103.8 from 104.0...

Football: Chelsea must produce one of their best performances of the season tonight in order to overcome Real Mallorca and qualify for their second successive Cup Winners' Cup final ....

signed as coach of the Pakistan team just three weeks before the start of the World Cup......Page 49 Snooker: Steve Davis, the former world champion, staged a magnificent fightback but was beaten on the final black by Joe Perry in the Embassy World Championship in .... Page 50

Tennis: Greg Rusedski followed Tim Henman out of the Monte Carlo Open when he was beaten by Jiri .. Page 53 Novak.

Cinema 1: In a busy week for new releases, James Christopher reviews the Nicolas Cage thriller 8mm and Kevin Costner's tearjerker, Message in a Bottle ..... Page 38 Cinema 2: At the age of 54 the British actress Jacqueline Bisset has Cricket: Javed Miandad has relanded a plum role in the period drama The Honest Courtesan thanks, she says today, to her positive attitude .... Stratford tales: The Royal Shakespeare Company stages Ted Hughes's Tales from Ovid in a daunting illustration of the intensity of hu-

> man passion.... Page 40 Creative duet: When Benjamin

> Britten met W.H. Auden in 1935, a relationship began which was to culminate in the opera Paul Bun-...Page 41

> > **TOMORROW**

IN THE TIMES

EDUCATION

inner-city schools

Raymond Snoddy

on why Greg Dyke

deserves a chance

to compete for the

BBC's top job

have cut crime

Catching them

young: how

**MEDIA** 

master storyteller...

#### Beyond Brideshead: Debunking Oxford and Cambridge as homes for the privileged ...... Page 44

A school is supposed to be a place of know what the explanation is. - Denver Rocky Mountain News

Green nappies: Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on an eco-friendly alternative for baby's disposables, and on John Diamond's battle. Page 22 Gift of the gab: Erica Wagner meets Ben Haggarty, a modern

#### THE PARTY OF Late bergains: From photography in the Lake District to cruising around Greek islands ...... Page 37

Caged mind: Brian Keenan on the kidnap ordeal of Jan Philipp Reemtsma: Roy Jenkins on Dean Flower seller: Amanda Craig re-

views Deborah Moggach's novel Tulip Fever, Erica Wagner on a powerful tale of love and vengeance from Andrew Greig ...... Page 43

security, yet once again America has witnessed a violent rampage on school grounds. It is shocking to review the long list of school shootings in the past two years. We don't

#### DAME & TE

Preview: Aussie Birds: documentary about the Australian pelican (Channel 5, 7.30pm). Review: Joe Joseph is astonished that the BBC broadcast ball-by-ball snooker on

#### Democracy in danger

Montenegro, a proud and tolerant republic which has valiantly tried to stay neutral in the new Balkan war, is at grave risk of being torn apart. If Nato has "plans to stop" Belgrade destroying it, it had better dust them down.....Page 25

#### Arms and the boys

the American Congress will studiously avoid any serious constraints on gun ownership and focus instead on the supposed influence of the Internet.... ....Page 25

#### It's a bug's world

A Web of Life display at London Zoo celebrates the loveliness, intricacy and diversity of the world's invertebrates...

#### **ANATOLE KALETSKY**

The great global economic crisis. which started in Thailand and Indonesia nearly two years ago and reached its apogee last summer with the financial collapse in Russia, was one of the luckiest breaks that Bill Clinton and Tony Blair ever had .....

#### **MAGNUS LINKLATER**

It is hard to do other than ween for the children of the Columbine High School, massacred for no better reason than that were an easy target for ungoverned hatredt......Page 22

#### JOHN LAUGHLAND

The war is being fought to destroy the very principles which constitute the West. To behave as if this were not so is not moral: it is megaloma-

#### Tim Forster, National Hunt trainer; Sir Laurence Kirwan, Royal Geographical Society; Dorothea Brooking, Children's TV producer; Hero de Rance, pianist.....Page 26

Arms decommissioning; Lords' reform; bombs on Serbia; Gordon Brown as "defender of Britain"; repairing listed buildings; memories

of Margaret Thatcher ...... Page 25

# THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,084

I Idea that's incomplete, however

5 Terrible weapon to fire at disor-derly mob repeatedly (4.4).

9 Importing staple food proved odd-ly expensive (10). 10 Game you reportedly found in old-fashioned case (4). 11 Defoe's character as seen in part

of Europe (Sl.

12 One English novelist or another abridged (6).

13 Lighter domestic animal put on second (4).

15 18 in a state (8). Merchandise with method? Well

donel (4.4).

19 Spy chain (4).

21 Very large flower worshipped by ancient Egyptians [6).

23 Corresponding part of some vital error reversed (8). 25 A number of Germans were dis-

Solution to Puzzle No 21,083



26 Where those who serve drinks are placed inside (6.4).
27 Type that's trapped in ooze that's

28 The short form of 23's argument DOWN

2 In South coast resort, left substandard accommodation (5).

Frenchman, in single case, lacking refreshment (9). field (6).

5 Relatively old form of religion? (8-7). Quaint archaism left in (3-5). 7 Half-heartedly shout downstairs

Among ordinary people. Dick is the entrepreneur (9).

Singularly useless product for the Japanese consumer (9). 16 Husband, somewhat expert, pro-

viding good living? (9). 17 Church fitted us up within ecclesiastical garb (8].

22 Staff joined by popular French

master (5). 24 Prolific scorer's off-drive (5).

☐ We apologise for errors in yesterday's solution grid. Correct answers should have read: Across - (5) windup. (20) the same old story, (28) oxidiser: Down - (25) phlox.

Times Two Crossword, page 56

TIMES NEW SPAPERS LIMITED, 1909, Published and printed and licensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Lid. PO Rov. 495, Virginia Street, London El 900, telephone 077-782 5000 and also printed at Kulling Road, Prescut, Merseyside. 134 9410, telephone 0151-546 2000. Thursday, April 22, 1949. Registered as a reaspaper at the Post Office.



The Met.Off

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun sets: 8.08 pm Moon sets: 2.19 am First quarter today London 8.08 pm to 5.49 am Bristol 8.18 pm to 5.59 am Edinburgh 2.33 pm to 5.49 am Marchester 8.22 pm to 5.52 a Ponzance 6.26 pm to 6.14 am



NEWSPAPERS

THE

#### General: it will be another blustery Fresh south-westerly. Max 15C (59F). day, but it will be reasonably mild with a few sunny spells, the best of these across eastern England and East Anglia. Much of England and Wales will have showers, especially in the west. Northern Ireland and south-west Scot-

should see sunny spells. Eastern Scotland will be mostly dry, but it will feel cool along the coast. Tonight, Scotland and Northern Ireland will remain wet and windy. Wales and western England will be cloudy with a some showers likely, continuing breezy in the north. Eastern and SE

land will be mostly cloudy with show-

ery rain, but north-west Scotland

England will have clear breaks. ☐ London, SE England, E Anglia E Midlands, EEngland, Central N. NE England: mild with sunny spells but breezy with increasing chance of

showers. Max 16C (61F). Central S England, W Midlands, Channel Islands: a few sunny spells, but breezy with showers breaking out. SW England, S Wales, N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man: breezy with limited sun and some heavy showers. A moderate to fresh south-westerly. Max 14C (57F). □ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll: mainly cloudy with spells of heavy rain. A moderate south-westerly. Max 12C (54F). Aberdeen, Moray Firth, N E Scot-

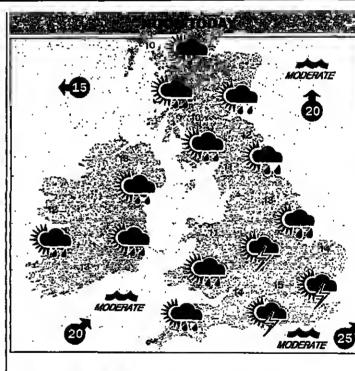
land, Orkney, Shetland: rather cloudy but largely dry. Max 12C (54F). NW Scotland: sunny spells and one or two showers. Max 11C (52F). N Ireland: mostly dull and cloudy rith showery rain. Max 12C (54F). ☐ Republic of Ireland: sunny spells developing showers. Max 14C (57F) Outlook: Scotland and N Ireland will have more rain on Friday. England and Wales will have sun and isolated showers. Saturday will be mainly dry but rain will move into Northern Ire-

land, Wales and western England.

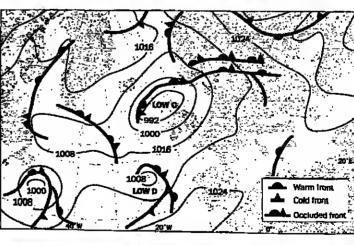


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ABRUAD 61 | 68 5 | 70 54 5 5 68 5 5 | 95 Rome Salzburg S Frisco Santlago 6 Paulo Seouli Seouli Seouli Singapore Stockholm Stresbirg Sydney Sydney Tel Anortha Toliyo Toronta Tunts Valencia Vanctor Vienna Warsaw Washington Welnigon Sunich Majorca Malaga Malaga Malaga Malaga Manama Manima Manima Moscow Munich Najos Najos Najos Najos Najos Najos Najos Najos Partis Prague Reydjavki Rinodes 75 : 88 : 54 : 54 : 70 : 73 : 73 : 52 : 75 : Chicago Chichuse



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low C will remain slow moving, with little change in central pressure, while Low D deepens and runs northeast





Yesterday: highest day temp: Gravesend (Keni) 16C (61F); lowest day max Baltasound (Shetland) 06C (43F): highest rainfall: Capel Curig (Gwynedd) 1.25ins; highest sunshine; Margate (Kenl) 9.6hrs.

فكذا من الأصل

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**Britte**n's duet with Auden Arts, page 41

**Business** 

Today

Beef cuts to

the bone

Graham Searjeant

on the latest move

in the trade wars

Page 33

Federal Funds 4\*%\* (4\*%) Long bond 96\*\* (96\*) Yield 5.50%\* (5.52%)

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**BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft** 

THURSDAY APRIL 22 1999

# Pay rises put further rate Page & cuts in doubt

By Alasdair Murray, economics correspondent

spiked higher in February sparking City fears that the Bank of England will call a halt to its rate-cutting spree. However, a series of revisions and the introduction of a new bonus measurement

raised fresh doubts about the accuracy of the data, which was reinstated only last month after a four-month suspen-

Faint hopes that the Bank would still drive rates lower were also kept alive by the separate unemployment data. which showed another small rise in joblessness.

The minutes of the April Monetary Poucy

Monetary Poucy

revealed that at the last meeting the Bank was still inclined towards further cuts, with all nine members of the committee in favour of a reduction. The annual increase in aver-

WAGE growth unexpectedly age earnings ticked up to 4.6 per cent in the three months to February from an upwardly revised 4.5 per cent in January.

There was also a sharp jump in the monthly measure of earnings, with wage growth in February some S.O per cent higher than a year earlier. The figure confounded City expectations of a 4.1 per cent increase and was well above the 4.5 per cent that the Bank of England has repeatedly said is the maximum level compatible with its inflation target.

Some City analysts seized on the data as evidence that rates are now set to remain on hold while the Treasury implored workers to practise wage restraint. John O'Sullivan, UK economist at Greenwich Nat-West, said: "It will now be very difficult for the MPC to persuade itself of the case for a fur-

# Flawed ECB threatens euro, says Buiter

. BY ALASDAIR MURRAY .

WILLEM BUTTER, a mem- some European federal state", ber of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, yesterday launched a scathing attack on the European Cen-. tral Bank, claiming its "flawed" structure threatened to put "the common currency's survival at risk".

His warning came as another leading economist accused the British Government of already having taken the decisioo to join the single currency "behind closed doors". In a pamphlet published by New Europe, the anti-EMU group,
Professor Sir James Ball,
former chairman of Legal &
General and principal of the
London Business School, inmitting a "gross deception" in presending the single currency is anything other than a "key element in the march towards

Professor Buiter, in a paper for the Centre for Economic Policy Research, attacked the ECB's culture of secrecy and lack of accountability, claiming the deficiencies could lead to countries leaving the euro zone. He said the ECB's "spurious" attempt to create a culture of "collective responsibility", best represented by its refusal to publish voting records of in-

dividual members, is adding to uncertainty about the future direction of monetary policy. Professor Buiter emphasised that he was writing in a personal capacity. He said he still favoured British membership of EMU and hoped that arrival of the Bank of England's "awkward squad" would help to shake up the ECB.

Commentary, page 31

However, other economists emphasised that the sharp re-visions to the January data, with growth revised from 4.2 per cent to 4.5 per cent, and a change in the method of measuring bonuses made it impossible to determine the validity of the figures. The rise in overall average earnings is in stark contrast to separate survey evi-dence showing wage growth easing in recent months. The Office for National Statistics blamed the 'exceptional" revisions on an unusually high level of late corporate re-

turns. It added that while the new bonus measure, which has been modified to incorporate all bonus payments. made direct comparisons difficult, it had no impact on the overall earnings growth figures. Bonuses constituted about 1.3 per cent of the total rise in February average earn-

Robin Marris, Emeritus Professor of Economics at Birkbeck College and a fierce critic of the Bank's treatment of the data, said: "The discontinuity in the figures makes it impossible to draw any accurate conclusions."

The separate unemployment data showed the claimant count measure rising by a modest 2,000 in March. The broader International Labour Organisation measure of unemployment increased by 32,000 in the three months to February to reach 1.833,000.

However, overall employment rose by 80,000 to a record 27.3 million, suggesting that previously inactive workers are still returning to the labour market.

The earnings data helped the pound to stage a recovery after the publication of the MPC minutes had sparked an early self-off. The minutes confounded expectations that the MPC had been divided over the April rate cut with the only dissent coming from Willern Buiter who argued for a larger

Sterling closed off its lows against the dollar but was still a cent lower at \$1.6065. The euro also gained some modest ground against the pound to close at 66.03p, up from



Branson plans

#### BY FRASER NELSON

AFTER stamping his flag on everything from pensions to pop music, Richard Branson is poised to take Virgin into the fi-

nal frontier - space tourism. Mr Branson is in talks with Rotary Rocket, a Californian company that has designed a reusable, eight-seat spaceship that will take travellers into orbit for a return fare of about £60,000.

The talks involve Virgin operating the flights and painting its name on the rocket. It may contribute towards the E75 million the project still needs. Mr Branson, who is look-

BY JASON NISSE

THE Treasury was handed a bloody nose by the courts yes-

terday when a provision in last month's Budget, worth more than £100 million a year

in VAT, was ruled to be in con-

travention of European Law.

The ruling concerns a contro-

versial move to extend VAT to

cover the outsourcing of back office transactions in financial

services. Areas covered by the

people into space cheaply enough to make it a commercial proposition." that Mr Branson has paid £4 million for Ulusaba Private

ing at several other space

projects, is reported to have said: "We believe that in the

next ten years, the private sec-tor is going to be able to get

despite Gordon Brown, the

Chancellor, saying he would

not widen the scope of VAT -

include processing credit card transactions, clearing cheques

The move brought howls of

protest from the financial com-

munity. In particular, Finan-

cial Data Resources (FDR), the

company which processes credit card transactions for the

likes of NatWest and Lloyds

and providing Isas.

to go into orbit Game Reserve, a 500,000-acre tourist resort in South Africa. He is also hoping to buy a medieval fortress in Moroc-co, at the top of the Atlas mountains, for £1 million,

attempt to nullify a case before

the VAT Tribunal on the same

day that charging VAT on

such transactions contravened

the European Commission's

Sixth VAT Directive and was

thus illegal.
Ernst & Young, the account-

ant that advised FDR, said that the tribunal ruling means

that the Budget provision

The Tribunal ruled yester-

and convert it into a luxury hotel at the cost of a further The Times has also learnt £1 million. They will be run in the same manner as Necker Is-

order - which was brought in TSB, argued that this was an

land, Mr Branson's Caribbean retreat, which he rents out to high-paying holiday-makers and which makes £2 million annual profit. . Today, Virgin Cola will an-

nounce a deal to supply Pokka, a Japanese soft drinks company that owns about 120,000 of the country's one million vending machines.

Virgin said the deal could double the size of its cola divi-sion by generating £100 million of annual sales.

LINKS WERSITE: http://www.rotary/bcket.com

would now have to be with-

drawn. "A clear part of the fi-

nance order is now ultra

ed that it would not be with-

drawing the provision and

that it would fight the ruling.

We believe we are acting en-

tirely within European Law

and have checked this matter

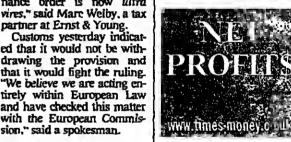
with the European Commis-

sion," said a spokesman.

partner at Ernst & Young. Customs yesterday indicat-

# 1,9613\* (1,0628) 1,8674\* (1,5067) 119,58\* (118,77) 106,8 (108,2)

NORTH SEA OR Budget VAT plan ruled illegal Brest15-day(Jul)... \$15.75 (\$15.55)



# Bad debt figures take shine off BoS

THE Bank of Scotland sent a shiver through the banking sector yesterday over the effects of the eco-nomic slowdown as it revealed a 22 per cent increase in provisions for bad debt.

The higher-than-expected in-crease to £267.9 million for the 12 months to the end of February, saw banking stocks across the board Shares of BoS closed off 40p.

down more than 4 per cent, at 870p. Mark Thomas, banking analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing, said: "Bank of Scotland's bad debt provi-sions were £116 million in the first half of the year and £152 million in the second.

That trend is of concern to all, particularly as the bank is saying it is continuing to raise provisions

Most of the bad debts were in personal loans, with £113 million of the provisions coming from Capital Bank, the bank's finance house sub-

The provisions took the shine off an otherwise good set of full-year results. Operating profits before provisions rose 15 per cent to £1.096 billion as the bank increased its over-all share of the banking market to 6.6 per, an advance of 0.5 per cent on last year. The final dividend is 7.6p giving a total for the year of

Despite the controversy over its recent telephone banking tie-up in the US with Pat Robertson, the right-wing TV evangelist, the bank said there had been "absolutely minuscule effect" on its UK business.

# Wanted: two solid City types for top Bank jobs

BY MARTIN WALLER

ARE you of undisputed integrity. standing and authority? Do you work in industry? Most important of all, are you definitely not one of the great and the good who always fetch up. by a process as hidden as it is seemingly inevitable, holding the levers of power in the business

Then the Court of Directors of the Bank of England could be the place for you. The Bank, for the first time, is ad-

vertising for non-executives to join the Court, its ruling body. A discreet advert appeared in yesterday's Financial Times, and others will follow elsewhere in the national and regional press.



Eddie George: adverts in the FT

There are 16 non-executives who serve alongside Eddie George, the Governor, and his deputies, David Clementi and Mervyn King, the full-time members. They are appointed for a three-year period non-executives. Sir Colin Southgate and Sir David Lees, are standing down, having completed their second terms.

Their replacements, according to the FT ad, "will have substantial business experience either as chair or chief executive of a large organisation . . . or have played a prominent role in a relevant area of pub-

The job would take up one day a month, and more if the applicant serves on various committees.

LINKS WEBSITE: www.frn-treasury.gov.uk

## EU threatens to ban all US beef

BY CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

THE European Union is threatening to ban all US beef imports after scientific tests of hormone-free beef imported from America were found to contain traces of hormones. The finding threatens to increase

the temperature of a simmering trade row over an existing EU ban on hormone-treated beef imports. Trade negotiators in Brussels and Washington are already deadlocked over compensation for the ban on hormone-treated beef which was ruled illegal by the World Trade Organisation. The EU is conducting scientific tests in an effort to justify its prohibition but has admitted it will not be able to comply

by the WTO's May 13 deadline. Europe still imports some \$20

million of hormone-free US beef. considered of high quality and sold mainly in restaurants, but tests of recent shipments revealed that 12 per cent of the beef contained hormone residues. EU officials warned the US that a ban would be imposed on all beef from June 15. America is already threatening punitive tariffs on \$900 million of European exports, including Roquefort cheese, truffles and motorcycles, if the ban is not lifted.

A delegation from Brussels is in Washington attempting to thrash out a resolution of the banana dispute. Europe has conceded defeat after a WTO panel awarded \$191 million in damages to the US but Brussels is challenging America's practice of imposing unilateral sanctions.

Graham Searjeant, page 33

# BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS, EVEN WHEN YOU'RE CLOSED.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

#### Compaq's \$281m poor show

BEN ROSEN, chairman and acting chief executive of Compaq, yesterday de-scribed the computer maker's performance this year as "unacceptable", underlining the need for the boardroom bloodletting that took place on Sunday (Adam Jones writes).

First-quarter sales rose almost 66 per cent to \$9.4 billion (£5.8 billion). Analysts had been expecting \$9.9 billion before the warning. Net profits turned out to be \$281 million, or 16 cents a share. when analysts had originally hoped for 31 cents.

Compaq's warning this month caused the shares to plummet by nearly a quarter and prompted the departure of Eckhard Pfeiffer, its chief executive.

# NTT anger at Byers in C&W bid battle

THE British Government yesterday came under fierce attack from Japan's state-controlled telephone company. Nippon Telegraph and Telephone (NTT), for interfering in the takeover battle for its smaller rival, International Digital Communications (tDC).

The cribcism was made as Cable & Wireless, one of Britain's largest telephone companies, raised its estimated Y63 billion (£330 million) cash bid for IDC. IDC's board has already recommended a takeover offer from NTT, but the company's shareholders have not yet accepted it. The British Government be-

came involved in the increasing-ly hitter takeover battle when

Stephen Byers. Trade and Industry Secretary, wrote to the Japanese Government saying that 'in our view, a successful bid by NTT would raise issues of competition and regulatory policy". This is because the Japanese Government not only owns a controlling stake in NTT. but also regulates the country's tele-

communications industry. NTT's president, Junichiro Miyazu, yesterday responded to Mr Byers's letter, saying: "I don't understand what motivated them [the British Government] to say such things. After all, it's a talk between private companies. tt is about what gets decided in the market." He refused to comment on whether NTT would raise its

original bid for IDC in response to C&W's fresh offer. Meanwhile, Britain's Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) stood by its criticism of NTT. One DTI source said: "If it was about a commercial company, it would be differ-

ent, but it's not, it's about state-

controlled NTT." However, leading telecoms analysts in London have given warning that C&W's aggressive negotiating tactics could irreparably damage the company's reputation in Japan -whose telecoms market is about to explode thanks to deregulation.

C&W sources yesterday re-sponded to this criticism by arguing that the company was

being "deliberately nonaggressive". "We are paying our respect to Japanese culture," one insider said, adding that if the company had been involved in a similar situation in the US it would have issued a writ by now. "But we are not going to just roll over," the source said.

C&W hopes that its revised bid — that analysts say could be worth anything up to Y76 billion — will win over IDC's founder shareholders, including Toyota, the car company, and the Itochu trading group. The offer is understood to include job security assurances for IDC's employees. C&W yesterday said that its offer had been met with "con-

#### Britannia could face £1m bill as Hardern pulls out

BY SUSAN EMMETT

BRITANNIA building society could face costs of up to £1 million, after Michael Hardern, the freelance butler and carpetbagger, yesterday withdrew his candidature for the board.

However, Britain's third largest building society said last night it was seeking legal advice on whether his handwritten note, delivered to a London branch, constituted a formal withdrawal. Britannia expects to make an announcement this afternoon.

arternoon.

If the note is legal, the building society will face huge costs reballoting its members and setting up another general meeting within a month.

The withdrawal comes only a few days before the vote, which should have been held at the society's annual meeting in Stoke-on-Trent next Thursday.

Britannia said the move will bring the total cost of opposing Mr Hardern to E3 million. The building society has already spent £2 million urging its two million mem-bers not to vote for the butler. Mr Hardern, who has twice stood for the board of Nationwide Building Society, sought to force the Britannia to convert to a bank.

The remaining four candidates for the board, which includes the society's chair-man Dr Calum MacLeod, are said to be firm support-

ers of mutuality.

Mr Hardern said: "I realised that I stand no chance of winning, so decided to withdraw. The whole thing is fixed. Although I knew this when I entered, I only recently came to the conclusion that the best thing to do yet. that the best thing to do was to pull out. It's their problem if they now have to reballot

Scottish unions shy away on PFI curbs SCOTTISH unions yesterday backed away from a showdown with the Government over the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) despite fierce condemnations of the policy which involves private money in public infrastructure projects. The decision to abandon a call for a halt to PFI projects in Scotland came after Gordon Brown brokered a deal last weekend with key union

leaders. He offered them more rights on employment condi-tions and involvement in the bidding process. The Scottish Trades Union Congress in Glasgow backed a diluted statement from its general council, which said that while it was opposed in principle to PFI, "proper framework agreements, may offer a way forward". But Frank Healey. of the Educational Institute of Scotland, attacked the policy—
on which Labour's pledge for new hospitals and schools in
Scotland depends—as "a parasite on the education of our
children and the health of our members".

#### Reed Executive ahead

SHARES of Reed Executive rose more than 10 per cent vesterday as the personnel company announced a jump in profits last year and a bullish outlook on current trading. Full-year pre-tax profits for 1998 were £16 million (£14.1 million) on turnover of £243 million (£226 million) on a small swing towards permanent recruitment. The final dividend is 1.8p per share giving a total for the year of 3.6p against 3p in 1997. The shares rose 13%p to 127p, having picked up from 72%p at the start of the year.

#### R-R £100m contract

ROLLS-ROYCE, the aerospace and defence group, has signed contracts worth about £100 million for the supply and support of Adour Mk 871 engines for Hawk Mk115 advanced jet trainers. The jet trainers will be used in the Nato Flight Training Canada (NFTC) programme. The contracts with British Aerospace, maker of the Hawk, and Canada's Bombardier, cover installed and spare engines for the 18-aircraft fleet starting NFTC operations next year. An engine mainte-nance agreement is also included in the package.

#### AstraZeneca sues

ASTRAZENECA, the newly merged pharmaceuticals group. is taking legal action in the US to resist the latest threat of generic competition to Losec, the Astra ulcer drug that is the world's best-selling medicine. Astra is suing Cheminor Drugs of India, and its American affiliate, Reddy Cheminor. which hope to market an unbranded version of the drug. Anatysts believe the expiry of key patents will expose Losec to generic competition from late 2001.

#### Profits up at LSH

LAMBERT SMITH HAMPTON, the property adviser, said it is benefiting from its switch away last year from acting as a conventional chartered surveyor to catering for the growing trend in outsourcing property services. In the year to January 31, the group, which now has more than 10,000 clients on its books, saw pre-tax profits rise 23 per cent to £4.7 million on turnover up 13 per cent at £47.5 million. The final dividend of 3.7p (3.4p) brings the full-year total to 5.6p (4.5p).

#### EXCHANGE RATES

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PROFITS

www.times-money.co.uk

# Unions hail new Ford deal

BY CARL MORTISHED

FORD is to produce a new plant in Dagenham as part of a deal struck with unions which will introduce more flexible working practices and safeguard up to 30,000 jobs. The deal will reverse a steady

decline in the fortunes of the Essex plant, which is currently working a four-day week due to a slump in sales of the Fiesta on the Continent. A one-week total shutdown of Dagenham pro-duction is still scheduled to commence on Monday.

Dagenham unions hailed the agreement as a turningpoint in the plant's fortunes. Steve Turner of the Transport & General Workers' Union said it was the result of a twoyear trade union initiative aimed at achieving worldclass status for the plant.

Ken Jackson, AUEW gener at secretary, said: "It demonstrates the tangible benefit of unions and management working together rather than adopt-The deal confirms that be a Dagenham will continue to assemble new model Fiesta year.



Ron Doel, union convenor, left, with his colleague Steve Riley in Dagenham yesterday

cars, expected to be launched in before 2002. In addition, Dagenham will be the single source of a new Ford model for Western Europe, believed to be a "people carrier", with plans for 150,000 units per

The new deal is similar to the package recently agreed between unions and Rover in Birmingham. More flexible working hours and job mobility will be introduced as well as a reduction in overtime, enabling management to gear working hours to production

The new deal will increase capacity at Dagenham from 272,000 units to 300,000 and will balance Fiesta production between Dagenham and Ford's

人名西西西德克姆克鲁德克

Question: What did the MD say to the IT Director?

> Answer: Nice web site, but what does it do for our business?

Sometimes technology falls short of its promise. Maybe it's your first site. Or you've tried to build your brand online. Or you just can't get your sales-order application to connect with your manufacturing system. It takes a lot of experience to understand what works and what doesn't. At USWeb/CKS, we've handled over 3,000 client engagements. We create, build and deploy successful sites that combine e-commerce, targeted marketing, customer management and more. Contact us to find out how.

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Ocean Spray Cranberries Our Internet solution gave cranberry growers secure access to vital crop-receipt data in a matter of hours, rather than days. The end result: enhanced efficiencies and a better partnership.

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unions shy s or a Dutch economist, Wilhelm Buiter exhibits a sur-prisingly deep knowledge of the works of Lewis Carroll. In his latest treatise on the single European currency, he refers readers to Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and suggests that their researches should progress

through the looking glass to The Hunting of the Snark and on to An Agony in Eight Fits.
If the first few months of the single currency have been far from comfortable, Professor Buiter clearly believes there is worse

In fact, although an avowed be-liever in a federal Europe with one currency, he is indeed fearful for the future of the euro. He argues that the structure of the European Central Bank, and the way it is operating, pose a threat to its independence. And if its independence is in doubt, then there will be scope for grievance and even the prospect of some countries flouncing out of the cur-

Professor Builer wants to see more openness and accountabili-ty for the ECB. As a member of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, he has emerged as something of a fan of our central bank and its chief banker. In a back-handed compliment, he suggests that if Britain were in the single currency. Eu-rope would benefit from a "one man awkward squad" at the ECB's meetings — Eddie George.



هُكذا مِنَ الرُّصل

# Alice's adventures in euroland

The Bank of England's Gover-nor might be able to prevail upon the ECB to publish the minutes of its meetings while they still have some relevance. Instead, Wim Duisenberg, the de-termined ECB President, has advocated a discreet silence of 16

years. Professor Buiter, who would be an avid reader of the minutes at the earliest available opportunity, sums up the Duisenberg attitude as: so long as Dad-dy brings home the bacon, then Mummy and the children have no business asking how he may have come by it.

But at the end of the 20th centu-

ry. Daddy's behaviour immediately becomes the subject of inquiry and suspicion. The MPC actually speeded up the publication of its own minutes in order to quell the counterproductive speculation that preceded them. Sophisticated economies need

to know the thinking that is going into central bank decisions. So Professor Buiter also wants to see ECB voting records pub-lished and the inflation forecasts

which are influencing policy.
Yet as a member of the MPC, he will know that even the most open approach to determining monetary policy can hit prob-

**COMMENTARY** by our City Editor

iems. It would be interesting to read unabridged minutes of the meetings at which the MPC dis-cussed the flawed earnings figures that led them to hike up interest rates unnecessarily last year. And it would be equally intriguing to hear their reaction to yesterday's new figures, replete with bonuses, which purport to show an upward trend once more, but beg more questions than they answer.

#### Moment of truth for euro-doubters

The Jabberwocky does not feature in a new pamphlet by Professor Sir James Ball but he does share Professor Buiter's view that the single currency could end in the Pool of Tears. The title of his work gives the

game away: The European Single Currency: A Bad Idea. The former principal of the London Business School who

went on to chair Legal & General, is now on the advisory council of New Europe, one of the bur-geoning number of pressure groups arising to campaign for or against Britain's membership

of the single currency.

New Europe favours a single market without benefit, or strictures, of a single currency and all that entails. Its members would have been nodding in agreement with much of what Professor Builer, from the opposing camp, had to say. The following passage would have merited cheers of approval. "The whole European integration experiment, from the Coal and Steel Community on, has been a political wolf dressed in economic sheep's clothing."

New Europe could have chorused "Told you so". Instead, Sir James ventured to wonder aloud on the position of BP. The former chairman is now ensconced in the House of Lords, a Minister with a European mission. But Lord Simon's successor, Sir John

Browne, has turned BP into BP Amoco, a global business and one which might be expected to prefer the dollar to the euro as a

currency of first choice.
The voices of many business leaders have been raised to sing the benefits that would flow to them of Britain joining the single currency but these are not immediately apparent to all those who are trading internationally. Yet while these people are prepared to voice their doubts privately, few are prepared to publicly say something which they believe would be unpopular with the Government. The battling is left to the old wartherses such as Sir to the old warhorses such as Sir Stanley Kalms, Lord Hanson. Lord Young et al.

But in the next few months, the Euro-doubters who are running British businesses are going to have to be brave and voice their qualms. Otherwise, they will lose the battle by default. The CBI, an organisation which has made clear its allegiance to the single currency, has now lined up Sir Iain Vallance to succeed Sir Clive Thompson as President. The BT chairman is as keen on the euro as the Rentokil Initial chairman he will succeed. The chances are that Adair Turner's successor as Director-General is unlikely to be a sceptic.

#### Panel takes a beating over CSG

The strange and complex brouhaha surrounding Corporate Services Group is in danger of making the Take-over Panel seem foolish. The pan-el has ruled that Michael Ashcroft must proceed with a takeover offer that he does not want to make, and which shareholders do not want even to consider until the employment company's boardroom has been turned inside out. The likelihood is that Mr Ashcroft will now make a revised offer that will inevitably fail - although in a bliz-

zard of disinformation, some sug-gest Mr A remains keen on CSG. Mr Ashcroft made his offer conditional on there being no changes to CSG's board strange given CSG's two profit have his eyes on advancement. warnings last month. Still, it's He could need his liberty.

his offer and the panel was fully aware of the condition.

Pressure from angry shareholders threatens to remove five directors and appoint three new ones - but the panel views this turmoil as not sufficiently material to allow Mr Ashcroft to let his

offer lapse.
The panel is left deciding what is important to the acquiring company. What will happen if CSG's 1998 results are qualified or show profits of less than £19 million — which, on the face of it. would trigger other conditions of the Ashcroft bid? It is clearly important that bidders should not be able to impose frivolous conditions that allow them to withdraw offers on a whim. But this case risks leaving bidders too vulnerable to the commercial judgments of the panel.

#### At Liberty

LIBERTY is to get a not-so-new look. The Regent Street store is cleverly consulting with National Heritage to come up with a redevelopment scheme that will be appropriate and more affordable one than the grandiose plan that eventually scuppered the Denis Cassidy regime. But will Philip Bowman be there to see it through? He took on the role of chairman before becoming finance director at Allied Domeco and the chances are that he may

# More cuts on the way at DFS as profits slip again

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

DFS, the furniture retailer, saw interim profits fall by a third after it was forced to cut prices by an average of 4 per cent in a

competitive market.
Yesterday, Sir Graham
Kirkham, DFS executive chairman and founder, said prices are set to come down further in the second-half.

Sir Graham last year reported the first fall in DFS annual Sir Graham last year reportprofits in its 30-year history.

Pre-tax profit in the six months to January 30 was £12 million, down from £18-2 million a year earlier. Sales rosefrom £130 million to £137.9 million, boosted by new store openings. Like-for-like sales, ignoring new space, were down 7.4 per cent.

The company's operating margin fell from 13.2 per cent 11.8p to 7.8p, but the interim dividend is being maintained

at 4.4p. Sir Graham said that the company intends to increase its proportion of own-manufacturered products from 10 to 15 per cent. It plans to increase



Kirkham: "strongly placed"

the capacity of its Doncaster factory, at the cost of about £500,000.

Spending on advertising has increased as a proportion of sales to over 10 per cent, he margin fell from 13.2 per cent a year earlier to 8 per cent. Earnings per share fell from more "aspirational" and focused on younger consumers. It is also less focused on interest-free credit.

Sir Graham said that "within what remains a tough business environment for all furniture retailers, we believe that DFS is achieving a satisfactory performance and is continu-ing to gain market share."

DFS is "champing at the bit and strongly placed to take ad-vantage of any upturn," he

He estimated that DFS' share of the upholstered furniture market is between 12 and 13 per cent. The company has brought in a new buying team and which has begun to introduce new ranges.

Three new stores opened during the first half, at Maidstone, Hanley (Stoke-on-Trent) and Southampton. Since the beginning of the second half, a new store has been opened at Beckton, off London's North Circular Road. Another has opened at Bolton. Sir Graham said he hopes to maintain the store opening programme at around five per year.

Stores have been refubished at Gateshead, Bury St Edmonds and Cannock. The Preston, Darlington and Kings Lynn stores are due to be refurbished in the second half. Capital expenditure in the first half totalled £8.4 million (£7.3 mil-

Tempus, page 32

## NTL kicks Newcastle bid into touch

By Jason Nisse

NTL, the cable TV group, yesterday dropped its planned at 160 million offer for Newcastle United, the Premier League football club.

The US-owned company

said that comments in the Mo-

nopolies & Mergers Commis-sion report blocking BSkyB's bid for Manchester United made it clear that an offer for Newcastle by NTL would be blocked.

Newcastle shares fell 5p to 731/p in reaction. "If there was any way we

thought we could have won we would have gone ahead," said Geoffrey Hamilton-Fairley, the chief executive of Premium TV, the NTL subsidiary which would have owned Newcastle.

NTL said it has studied the MMC report and it became club, and in which it would

clear that the competition authorities were fundamentally opposed to media companies owning football clubs.

It had agreed a deal in which it bought an intital 6.3 per cent stake from the Hall family, which controls the

pay 1tt.7p a share for the Halls remaining 51 per cent stake.

NTL said it will retain its holding and if the regulatory environment changed. would renew its interest.

Tempus, page 32

# COLOUR PRINTING TECHNOLOGY HAS FINALLY CAUGHT UP WITH THE BIRO.

## Spring Ram sells Stag for £4.25m

Spring Ram Corporation, the household fittings and furni-ture manufacturer, is to sell its Stag Holdings furniture business to a management team for £4.25 million in cash and shares. The company will take a £12.7 million loss on the disposal. Stag was acquired by Spring Ram in 1992 for £12.4 million and was profitable in 1993 only. For the year ended January 2, 1999, Stag incurred an operating loss of £900,000. before exceptional items, on turnover of £27.9 million.

#### WPP expands

WPP Group, the advertising and business services company, has acquired the business of CP in the US, which provides outsourced customer care services focusing on the information technology sector, for an undisclosed sum.

#### Talks confirmed

Shares of Inn Business rose 6%p to 77%p as the tenanted pub group confirmed that it is in takeover talks with Alchemy Partners, the venture capitalist Analysis are betting on a bid of 80p-90p per share, valuing Inn Business at up to £72 million.

#### Novartis slides

Novartis, the Swiss healthcare group, is continuing to suffer sluggish sales, with its first quarter turnover falling I per cent to SwFr7.87 billion (£3.2 billion). Its shares fell about 3.5 Der cent.



#### Lasmo in sale to French gas utility By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

GAZ DE FRANCE is expanding in the UK with the £90 miltion purchase of a package of southern North Sea gas assets from Lasmo and the acquisition of a gas marketing compa-

ny, Volunteer Energy. GDF Britain, a subsidiary of the French gas utility, is buying Lasmo's interest in the Caister, Boulton Hunter, Chiswick and Cavendish fields as well as pipeline systems and exploration acreage. The fields have proven and probable re-serves of 12.2 million barrels of oil equivalent and Lasmo said that it would book a profit of £t4 million on the sale. Keith Lough, of Lasmo, said: "We have realised full value from this package of assets. which were non-core to Lasmo and are clearly worth more to a company with an interest in the European gas business."
The deal will help Gaz de

France to secure supplies of gas as France has dwindling reserves of the fuel.

It is also paying £2 million for Volunteer, a deal that fol-lows the French state-owned company's move to sell gas in Britain via the Interconnector. UK gas prices are higher than on the Continent, where prices are linked to the weak price of fuel oil, allowing Gaz de France to profit from exports to the UK.

# Ashcroft forced to go on with bid

By PAUL DURMAN

SHAREHOLDERS in Corporate Services Group, the troubled employment company at the centre of a complex takeover wrangle, are demanding that four of the group's directors should resign immediately to spare it further turmoil (See Commentary, this page). A spokesman for sharehold-

ers owning about 60 per cent of CSG was speaking after the Takeover Panel forced Michael Ashcroft, the wealthy businessman who is treasurer to the Conservative Party, to continue with his £250 million

takeover offer The dissident shareholders have lost confidence in Ralph Hulbert, chairman, and other directors and want a new board to assess the state of CSG and the merits of the Ash-

A shareholder meeting to enforce the management changes will not take place until May 4. The spokesman said: "The board should in all conscience resign forthwith be-cause Ashcroft has to go on with his bid. We need to be advised by a new board."

Mr Ashcroft's offer was conditional on there being no changes to CSG's board, but the Panel has ruled this is not a sufficiently important issue to allow him to withdraw his bid. New Carlisle, his bid vehicle, is expected to make an offer revised in such a way that will make it almost certain to

Rea Brothers, New Carlisle's adviser, has already sought fresh discussions with Investec Henderson Crosthwaite, adviser to CSG.



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English rivals. Yes, it has been growing UK

wide from a relatively small base, but since 1980 the bank has consistently increased its share of the market at twice the sector aver-

age. Although return on capital has been low-

er than many rivals - at just over 20 per cent

business by about 15 per cent a year.

BoS has offset this weakness by growing

BoS's personal and commerical loans busi-

ness carries good margins, margins which are accentuated by cost cutting. On deposits BoS

is exploiting the potential beyond the conven-

tional branch network. Its venture with Sains-

bury's Bank has attracted 950,000 savers'and

although it has recently been overshadowed

by the likes of Egg, Prudential's new bank, it will make a profit for shareholders sooner

than the other two. On balance, BoS shares

NTL brought the Hall family

stake in the club, and without

may always be a questiona-

ble proposition. The attrac-

tions of Magpies' shares cer-

merit their place on the buy list.

it is on course to make more. It further before they improve.

its television rights are valua- out as sellers of their majority

them on its own or goes the appearance of a new bid-

through the Premier League der the stock overhang will

structure. And NTL's bid inter- drag on the price. For money-

est shows that the club has at-minded investors, football

ever, things may deteriorate tainly remain well hidden.

T*EMPUS* 

Scots take the high road

BANK shares have surged in recent weeks as the likelihood of a hard economic landing ap-peared to recede. Bank of Scotland's bad debt

provisions for last year suggest that things

may not be as rosy as they now seem. Bos stands to lose big time if there is, after all, an

BoS has enjoyed a racier rating than most.

Even after yesterday's 40p fall the shares, at 870p, trade at about 21 times historic earnings.

It may not have the exposure to high risk

emerging market and hedge fund-type debt.

but it is a highly geared play on the UK econo-

my. If things get rough over here expect its shares to tumble a lot further than its peers.

Yet, at the same time, it would be wrong to

overstate the dangers. Under innovative and

energetic management. BoS has sustained a

two-decade run that is the envy of its bigger

Newcastle Utd

NEWCASTLE UNITED has

suffered its fair share of set-

backs. It lost Kevin Keegan,

its inspirational team manag-

er, just before it floated on the

stock market. It lost most of

its board and a second coach

after it joined the market and

it also lost a battle to build a

new stadium. It lost in the FA

Cup final last year, and two directors lost their common

sense chatting to a journalist

Now Newcastle has lost a

bidder willing to pay £160 mil-

lion for the company that to-

day is worth only £t04 mil-

lion. Meanwhile, sharehold-

ers have lost their shirts.

Shares currently trade at

about half the 1997 float price.

At these levels Newcastle

in a Spanish brothel.

economic crunch.





# Wall Street's rally fails to excite pessimistic City

SHARE prices on the Londor stock market are set to extend this week's sharp falls. That was the stark message going out to clients last night from brokers after the London market failed to respond to an opening rally on Wall Street where the Dow Jones industrial average posted an opening rise of 105-points.

The response from the FTSE 100 index was lacklustre. After reversing a 34-point deficit, it traded in narrow limits for the rest of the session before closing 8.8 down at 6.311.0. By contrast, the FTSE 250 index rose 9.8 to 5.763.4 as total turnover reached 1.27 billion shares.

Sentiment was undermined by the stronger than expected rise in average earnings. Even the prospect of another cut in base rates following publica-on of the minutes of the last Monetary Policy Comminee meeting failed to inject fresh life into the market.

Dealers said that any fur-ther setbacks for New York would inevitably lead to fresh falls in London where ratings are starting to look stretched. Best performer among blue

chips was BAT, up 390:p to 5120-p. as HSBC Securities, the broker, raised its recommendation from "add" to "buy". Speculative buying fuelled fresh gains in Marks & Spencer, up 1615p to 461p. as the story went round that Warren Buffen would soon confirm a 3 per cent holding. Just for good measure, there was also talk of a possible merger with Tesco, 12%p bet-

Kingfisher rallied 25t-p to 7712p with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, the US securities house, claiming this week's sell-off in the shares had been overdone. It has raised its recommendation from "outperform" to "strong buy" and set a target price of 950p.

Bullish comments from Credit Lyonnais Securities, the broker, lifted Pearson 66p to £12.81. It has raised its recommendation from "add" to "buy" having seen the price drop back from its peak of £14.31 achieved in March. Morgan Stanley is also said to be pushing the stock to clients ahead of a series of City presen-

One of the largest movers of the day was Oliver Group. which jumped 4p to 2014p. Flemings is believed to have sold its 8.6 per cent stake in the



gains as rumours of a possible link with Tesco circulated lieved to be American tractor

corporate recovery specialist. Stead & Simpson, another shoe retailer, is also said to be stalking the company.

A fresh burst of speculative buying hoisted **Powerscreen** 7p higher to 157p on turnover of 1.58 million shares. The Northern Ireland-based engineer is already having talks with one potential buyer, be-

maker John Deere. But whispers in the market claim another bidder waits in the wings with an offer in the region of 200p a share. The Powerscreen share price plunged from a peak of 6071/2p last year on the back of accounting irregularioes.

Technology stocks recov-ered some of their composure

TROU	JBLED BLEND	2,500
	FTSE All-share	2,400
	Index (rebased)	2,300
MARKET	100 / 100 / 100	2,200
	m Maria and the	
	ARMY AS JUNE	2,100
	$A_{i}$	2,000
		1,900
		1,800
	UK-DS Beverages price index	1,700
10.00	Constitution of the second	1,600
		1.300

COMMODITIES

THERE seems little these days for the whisky distillers to cheer about.

This has been reflected in the performance of the quoted companies with High-land. Ip easier at 244p, having fallen from a peak of 325p last year. Glenmorangie, unchanged at 572%p. is also below its best, while the bigger companies, such as Allied Domecq, 2p down gled. Export volumes in 1998 plunged to their lowest levels for 15 years, falling

8.1 per cent to 276.7 million

litres. Values also declined 15 per cent to £2.03 billion. Sutherlands, the Edinburgh-based broker, says the figures were disappointing but not unexpected.

It has been obvious for some time that export markets were bound to suffer because of the economic downturn in South-East Asia. But there is a ray of bope. Alan Gray, of Sutherlands, says: "There is some evidence that the worst has been seen in Asia and that exports will partially recovwith gains for Logica, 57/4p to 592/4p, ARM Holdings, 56/4p to 705p, FI Group, 15p to 30214p. Easynet Group, 20p to 525p, and Geo Interactive Media, 7%p to 144p. It follows the heavy sell-off of high-tech stocks earlier in the week on Nasdaq where prices had been going through the roof. Dixons, which also suffered a sharp fall on Tuesday reflecting its Freeserve Internet busi-

ness, rallied 68p to £12.98. The hotel sector has hit a purple patch, with opomism outweighing fears of a backlash from the Yugoslavian crisis. Although the big operators, par-ricularly those with a London presence, claim to have seen no impact, memories of the effects of the Gulf War are still fresh in some investors' minds.

tinuing hopes of corporate action, Jarvis Hotels, which was recently trading at less than 100p, was up another 51/2p to 160p in heavy volume on hopes that NH Hoteles, a Spanish rival, is ready to offer 190p a share. Millennium & Hotels, un-Copthorne changed at 580p, is also known to be in the market for deals, tt said recently that it was considering a possible merger with CDL Hotels International, its Hong Kong-listed

quisitions. Note the heavy turnover in Signet with the price easing 2p to 55% p as 20.68 million shares changed hands. Several lumpy sellers appeared on the seene with a line of 4.33 million shares going through at 574p, 3.5 million at 57p and a further two million at 57p.

Newcomer Voyager 2000

majority shareholder, as well

as a number of individual ac-

was trading at about the 61:p level after a placing by Fiske, the broker, at 5p on AIM. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Investors were focused on the longer end of the market where prices managed to extend this week's gains. In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt fin-ished 15p down at £117.33 as 21,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues. Treasury 8 per cent 2021 rose 25p to £147.93, while in

shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 eased Sp to £106.29. □ NEW YORK: US shares moved higher as the switch to cyclicals eased. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was up 12.89 to 10,461.44.

Copenhagen.....

New York.....

Montreal

1 5135-1.5155

2,3918-2,4022

1.6063-1.6128

12.513-12.567

191.32-192 66

2,4226-2,4368

1.5139-1 5151

2 3918-2 3941

1 6063-1 6068

12 513-12 526

192 37-192 55

MAJOR	INDICES
New York (midd Dow Jones S&P Composite	<b>18y):</b> 10461 44 (+12.89) 1317 44 (+11.27)
	16495 02 (-202.09)
Hang Kong: Hang Seng	12543.76   + 133 96
Amsterdam:	
Sydney: AD	3068 3  -21 8)
Frankfurt: Day	5163.29 (+76 00)
Singapore: Stats	1842.33 (+32.85)
Brussels: BCL20	3255.71  +32.44)
Paris:	4291 60 (+38.33)
Zarich: SM into	71247 (-47)
London:	3972.8 (-12.8) 
FTSE 250	3021 4 (-27) 2967 01 (+1263)
FISE AN-SPER	2941.14 [+9.13)
FTSE Food Interest FTSE Govt Secs	
SEAG Volume	

RECENT ISSUES Affinity Internet Animy internet 143's
Br Smaller Co's VCT (100) 95
Br Smil Cos VCT Wrts 12's
Calengorm Euro Restruct 112
Calengorm Restruct Wrts 25 Some of the interest undoubtedly emanates from con-Edinburgh Val Zero Dv Pf Gartmore High Income Gartmore Zero Div Pl M Currie Portfolio Sherry FitzGerald Triven VCT Voyager 2000

Mice Group n/p (80) Versalite n/p (05)

tersent its ford	IN a very difficult furniture
PAIDE PLANES	market, DFS increased its sales and its market share. But
RISES:	the cost was huge. Its operat- ing profits margin, which DFS
Stock Close Ching Ching% Virtual Internet	maintained at above 13 per cent in the first half of 1998,
London Pacific427'2 + 55 + 14.7 Xenova	has crashed to just 8 per cent. Customers, it seems, have
NMT	not been avoiding furniture
Eclipse Blinds120 + 11's + 10.5	purchases altogether, but

- 9.6	they have been holding out
80	they have been holding out
+ 9.6 + 8.9 + 8.7	for low, low prices.
9.6 8.9 8.7 8.6 8.3 8.1 7.7 7.7 7.7 7.7	DFS has always argued
E.8 -	
0.3	that it gave value for money.
8.1 7.9 7.7	But customers have become
7.3	
F 7.7	cannier. They have seen
⊦ <u>7</u> .5	through the interest-free cred-
(4)	it wheeze - that it is only
- <u>[.]</u>	
- 6.7	available if they pay full price
7.5 7.4 7.1 6.7 5.8 5.8 5.7	for the goods. Now they de-
<b>- 5.8</b>	mand interest free credit, but
- 57	
	they want outright cheaper

product too.

Having cut its margins, difficult to rebuild them. Even if people start spending more freely, they are going to resent any significant in-

. 7.7475-7.7480 . 119.70-119.75

3.8000-3.8001 7.7955-7:8015

1.7130-1.7140 B.4029-8.4117

1.5081-1.5091

. 1 6060-1.6100 . 2.4854-2.4878

0.6000-0 6152

488.75-500.75

. 2.7640-2.7840

**ALL TO PLAY FOR** 

has a strong fan following and

ble, whether it negotiates

tractions, especially if the regu-

latory environment is relaxed.

tn share price terms, bow-

shares may look cheap. The club makes a good operating profit and as it is adding an extra 20,000 seats to its stadium, **DFS** 

crease in prices. Moreover. there is no sign that spending on furniture and carpets has started to increase, despite the cuts in interest rates. At the same time, competition is increasing all the time, with a large number of new furniture stores opening.

With no sign of an improvement in the company's fortunes, the shares are likely to remain in the doldrums. Bargain hunters should stick to looking for cut-price DFS so-fas, not DFS shares.

#### Rank

RANK Group's first quarter is the leisure group's least active trading period. In 1998 it produced operating profits of just £21 million, out of a total for the year of £280 million. Yesterday's AGM statement was downbeat, admittedly. but in light of the fact that the period is so slow it was a little surprising that the share should be rewarded. Hold. price dipped 164p to 262p.

If shareholders were disap-

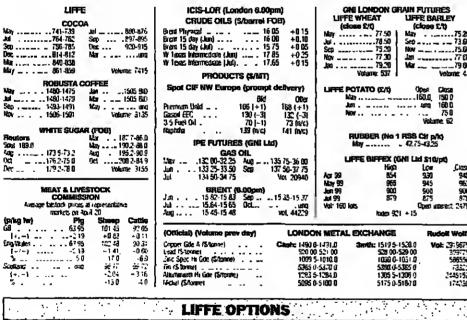
promising statement of intent from Mike Smith, the new chief executive, they should not have been. The former Ladbroke man only joined Rank on April I and he has hardly had time to get round the estate, let alone reach any big decisions on strategy.

Given the tribulations of his predecessor, he can be forgiven for treading cautiously. Investors will have to wait for August's interims before he provides any substantive assessment of prospects.

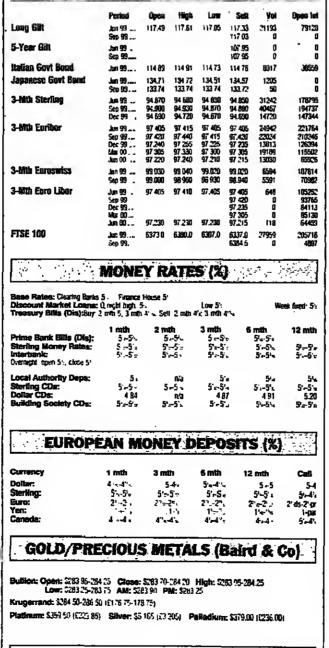
Mr Smith's timing, however, looks impeccable. He arrives just as Rank looks set to benefit from the recent heavy investment in its facilities, including Buttins and Odeon. He is further helped by a reviving economy.

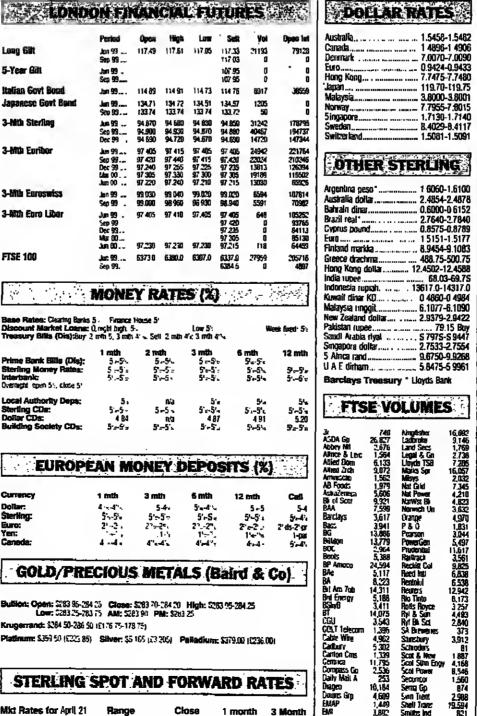
Yesterday's share drop looks like profit-taking after the recent run. More shareholder patience, however,

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



markets on Ap. il 20 (p/kg hv) Pig Shoop Cattle	Aug 15 45-15 48 vol. 44229	hades 921 + 15
GB 63.95 101.45 97.05	(Official) (Volume prev day) LONDO	N METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff
Englithates 67.95 (22.48 20.3)	Cripper Gde A /S/tonne) Charto 1490 6	1431.0 Swith: 15195-1520.0 Vol: 23:5675
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	LIFFE OPTIONS	
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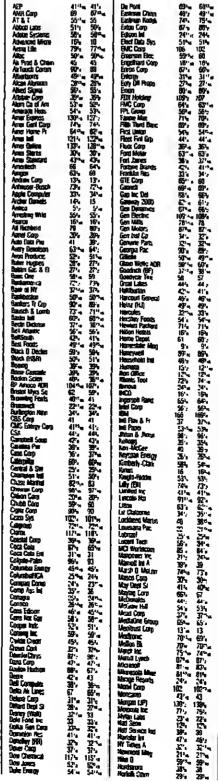




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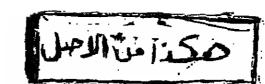
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SACTION STATE Number

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ou could not wish trade sanctions on a better chap. This week, America finally legally imposed price-doubling tariffs on Bernard Amault's Louis Vuitton handbags and the Gucci bags he is so determined to add to his collection. Even croco-

AURSDAY APRIL 21

ALL TO PLAY FOR

diles will not shed tears. The Border cashmere industry will not, after all, be sacrificed to a dispute over the EU's failure to import quite enough bananas from the successors of United Fruit. Sentiment and politics doubless played a part. Mostly it was be-cause the World Trade Organisation stashed the value of goods on which the US had pre-emptively imposed import bonds.

Lest anyone think that a twoway special relationship still exists, £14 million in UK exports of lead acid batteries, £7 million of bath preparations, £2 million of lithographs and smaller exports ranging from tea-makers to print-ed cotton bed linen are being hit by heavy US trade armoury. Britons' livelihoods will be lost while EU negotiators try to patch up a deal

Simmering trade war gets to the beef that is acceptable to American trade negotiators at the expense of

West African peasants.

One way or another, US banana multinationals will take over their business. Martin Bangemann. free to speak his mind as outgoing EU Industry Commissioner, dismissed the EU case in what Reuters called "language that may be offensive to some readers". The pass had been sold in past trade negotiations. Under WTO rules the US was right. That does not mean

it had to nit-pick over those rules. To satisfy open-walleted domes-uc political friends. America is prepared to impose punitive economic sanctions on the families of those with whom it is fighting wing-tip to wing-tip in the Balkans in common cause. Collateral damage will be done to innocent jobs, compa-nies, investors and communities

that have nothing to do with the banana rules. Even Serbia, Iraq. Iran and Libva have not imposed Caribbean islanders and poor punitive economic sanctions on us in the past 25 years — if only because they would be ineffective. Neither the Foreign Office nor the DTI have acted to stop this happening, let alone to seek redress for companies on the original list that were wrongly penalised.

> better get used to playing it as ruth-lessly as the EU's farm interests have long done and as the US is now prepared to do. We are likely to see how hard in the five times bigger row over American beef.
> The WTO has already ruled that

The trade game is hard. We had

there is no scientific evidence to justify the EU ban on imports of beef tions are set to hit \$900 million of exports, from Essex raspberry jam to motorcycles, if the EU does not



comply by the WTO's May 13 deadline. Instead, the EU has just found hormones in the non-hormone beef we do allow in, the European Commission has called for a ban from June and claims that a

Expect war. But why? It is not as

health study will not be ready until

WTO regime. Only America and the EU are powerful enough to would be disastrous for free trade. mount an effective attack and only these two plus Japan can resist one. So WTO rules permitting re-talization effectively apply only to the big three, plus China wheo it is allowed to join. Others have little power to redress wrongs.

The same imbalance is apparent in choosing a replacement for Ren-ato Ruggiero, head of the WTO. who is due to retire on April 30. Although members theoretically elect the director general, an in-stant tradition of consensus has been invented. This effectively gives a veto to the US, or to the EU if its members could agree.

If one country is to have a stranglehold on the world trade order. America is the best, even if it may not seem that way when Washington is bilaterally bullying Japan or if trade war is a genuine part of the putting South Korea in its place

But an imbalance of power is ultimately a recipe for conflict. It will grow more dangerous once China

is a trade power.

After experience of the United Nations and its affiliates, America is rightly suspicious of repeating such oonsense in new bodies. If the WTO is to live up to its name, however, power and sanctions au-thorised under its regime should be more international.

tf trade sanctions were exercised by the WTO rather than country to country, then smaller members would have a chance to protect their own interests. If fines were levied against governments, collaterat damage to innocent businesses should also be avoided.

Key environmental and labour issues should also be dealt with via international WTO affiliates. That would ease battles that mix crude arguments about child labour or wildlife with individual members' direct trade interests.

When various forums are summoned by America for the next round of trade relorms, these is-sues should be at the top of the agenda. The world's most important trading nation is running a \$200 billion trade deficit when economic logic suggests it should be

running a current surplus.
For that reason alone, this is not the time for cool negotiations to liberalise trade further. It would not go down welt, for instance, if devel-oping nations challenged the Jones Act, which protects US coastal shipping and the associated ship-

building yards.
The access of China, already almost agreed, inevitably in detailed bilateral negotiations with America, will present a huge challenge to the system. The WTO regime needs to be put on a better footing if that challenge is not to coincide with conflicts between the two most powerful blocs that could knock out the foundations of open trade.

# Wall Street's legal eagles swoop on the Square Mile

**Paul Armstrong** 

on why top

commercial lawyers are

crossing

the Atlantic

id you hear the one about the London lawyer who pre-pared a will for an elderly female client? He charged her £200, but she accidentally paid him £300. This put the lawyer in an obvious moral dilemma. Should he tell his partners about the extra fee?

London lawyers have long been the butt of jokes among their fellow professional workers, but it seems that now even their US counterparts are starting to have a chuckle at the expense of some of them.

Top-tier Wall Street firms are starting to make themselves at home in the Square Mile, where the globalisation of legal services is at its most advanced. And while they may be yet to win a substantial slice of the market, there are growing fears about the impact they could have over the next five years.

"I think what people are worried about is not what the US firms are today but what happens next," says Maurice Al-len, who heads the London office of US firm Weil. Gotshal & Manges. "It is a lot harder than we thought it would be, but the clever people realise that there is a strategic battle going on and that maybe the US people will get ahead of the

English m that battle." Much of the trend is being driven by the leading investments banks, which are seeking to exploit their new-found ability to structure deals under the law of almost any country. It just happens that, in the vast majority of cases, they opt for the British or US legal systems, depending on which is

the most accommodating. This has prompted many their shingle in London in the hope of winning business that would have otherwise left the



The cast of the television show LA Law. Their ilk are already making a mark on the City

of US firms, such as Sullivan & Cromwell, for which US le-gal advice still accounts for the vast bulk of the work done in their London offices. But, increasingly. US firms operat-ing in London have lawyers working in both jurisdictions. Members of the legal frater-

nity say the traffic is flowing both ways as London firms chase business from British investment banks wanting to construct deals under US law.

The push to expand law practices across the Atlantic has reached new heights with Clifford Chance, the British Street. There is still a handful firm, in merger talks with Rog-

er Wells, a medium-sized New York firm. Industry observers say it is only time before the top line firms attempt transatlantic mergers. But they believe that such industry rationalisation, which will also involve mergers of London-

based firms, could still be sev-Alan Hodgart, a director of Hodgart Consulting, a leading management adviser to European law firms, said the investment banks stumbled across the advantages of structuring deals in the jurisdiction of their choice early this decade. But he

adopted with increasing enthusiasm in the past five years.

They worked out that if you are buying a business with offices in ten countries you can do the whole transaction under British or US law and just have lawyers on the ground in each place to clear up the local issues," Mr Hodgart said. "A lot of the sec-ond-tier firms realised they would lose work if they didn't do the same so there is a real market share race going on there as a consequence of these changes at the top."

He said some second-tier US legal firms that specialised

ance had also been lured to London in the hope of taking market share from the local practitioners. Many of these firms had found the going tough. "You can justify moving abroad for many reasons but, at the end of the day, there has to be something that adds value for the client." Mr

Hodgart said. Figures published recently by Commercial Lawyer, the legal industry journal, showed that there were five US law firms operating in Europe with 100 or more lawyers each. A further six had more than 50. However, while these statistics highlight the potential for US firms to put pressure on their UK competitors. they are still a long way from the 1,000 or so lawyers em-ployed by Clifford Chance.

Stephen Fiamma, who is the partner in charge at the Lon-don office of the US firm Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, says American companies are making it increasingly clear that they want to deal with only one law firm, regardless of where an acquisition is located.

But Mr Fiamma also gave warning that the London legal market was highly competi-tive and did not offer US firms an easy profit boost.

"At this point in the cycle any lawyer can do well it incy are reasonably competent," he says. "The real test will be in the next downturn, when we will see how many have the

staying power."

Mr Fiamma said some US firms had bought their way into the UK market by offering huge pay rises to leading lawyers from London firms. But he said many partners in these firms would be unwilling to sustain the tough times if they felt the money was com-

ing out of their pocket.
"We have to compete with English lawyers. It is not like going into a market where the local lawyers can not get their shoe laces untied. This is also a very high overhead market compared with New York." Mr Fiamma said some US

firms could be risking a repeat of the mistakes they made in the late 1980s and early 1990s, when lawyers swarmed to London in the hope of capitalising on the start-up of the Common

## Spam leaves nasty taste for Net users ner at Allen & Overy, said the

The problem of junk e-mail - known bizarrely in the computer industry as "spam" — is esca-lating. This is not only an irri-This was when they started employing lawyers to provide advice on English law. Until then, most of them had been retacon to computer users, but also a potential threat to all companies conducting busi-

stricted to offering advice in re-spect to US legal issues. That was a big change because it meant they were in di-rect competition," Mr Tudor John said. "But they are still relatively small in comparison with English firms." r Hodgart says the only European business be-

ing won in significant amounts by US firms relates to project finance. Much pean Parliament from 24,000 of this work had traditionally Internet users fed up with reflowed to London but was being intercepted by some of the big US firms. He also points out that some of the US firms were targeting the better law-yers employed at second-ner firms. In many cases they were offering to double their annual salaries of about £200,000 and giving them five-year contracts.

Hodgart said this was taking the UK firms' best fee generators, making it harder for them to recruit replacements and putting them in a vicious

role of US firms operating in

London had changed dramati-

cally about three years ago.

However, the US firms believed this was a better way to break into the London market than merging with another major firm or trying to build a business from the ground up. He said this approach was also replacing the alliance con-

cept of the 1980s, which made it impossible for firms to ensure their clients were given satisfactory service.

www.energis.co.uk

ness on the Internet. The subject of spam has hit

the headlines twice this week. The subject first came up on Monday when Virgin Net, the Internet access provider, said that it had become the first British company to take legal action against a so-called "spanmer". The second came when Graham Watson, the Liberal Democrat MEP for Somerset and North Devon, delivered a petition to the Euro-

> ceiving junk e-mails. Spam usually involves lone businessmen or start-up companies sending millions of unsolicited e-mails in one go. Typically the e-mails contain the kind of dubious offers more commonly found in the small-ads section of Private Eye magazine. Most recently, e-mail users have been offered the chance to invest in fictitious Internet companies.

> The problem of spam has come about partly because it is so easy to get hold of e-mail adaddresses either using a software package or by purchasing e-mail addresses from customer research companies.

The biggest problem with spam is that it clogs-up the computer systems used by large corporations and Internet access companies, often causing them temporarily to shut down.

So far, the only way for com-



panies to tackle the problem is to use so-called "filtration software", which can detect unsolicited e-mails and delete them before they enter their networks. However, such software rarely eliminates the problem, and spammers tend to be one step

ahead of technology. BiblioTech, another British Internet company, has also launched legal action against a spammer. The company, which is a rival to Microsoft's Hotmail and provides free e-mail addresses to 100,000 subscribers throughout Europe, was subject to a massive bulk e-mail campaign by an American businessman selling print supplies, such as ink cartridges for computer printers.

Chris Verdin, the company's finance director, argues that anyone who provides Internet access suffers as a result of junk e-mail. "The worst thing at the recipient pays for it," he says. "Because you have to spend time online to down-load it."

☐ SOFTWARE that allows companies to manage the design, manufacture and maintenance of products has been launched this week by SAP, the German software group.

voice+dataforbusiness

CHRIS AYRES

# B2 bombs

I HEAR the last rites are being read at Barclays for the unloved B2 savings account. This is because the new Barclays symbol — the eagle within a kind of badge that resembles nothing so much as one of those plastic snowstorm toys, the Vauxhall logo, or possibly a "boy in a bubble" — will be used for every part of the com-pany, with the probable excepion of the Barclaycard.

B2, launched by Martin Taybr last May, will therefore oin that sector of the banking graveyard haunted by the spir-



With the eight-hour time difference we can now bill 32 hours a day.

its of Vector, Orchard and Meridian - shortly to be joined. we can only hope, by the Brit-ish Gas goldfish. When B2 was launched, I

said it wouldn't last. I was right, Mind you, I thought that Taylor would stick

BEFORE Bank of Scotland gets too cocky about yester-day's results, I have been contacted by a reader who says he has just received a piece of junk mail from its credit card department headed: "Win a trip to the Uefa Champions League final in Barcelona."

To go into the prize draw, all he has to do is answer one question. Which goes as follows: "Which city is the 1999 Liefa Champions League final being held in?"

#### Millar's tale

A RARE sighting of Andy Millar, the whistleblower who brought down British Biotech. At a presentation made at the Ernst & Young life sciences conference in Amsterdam this week, his name was flagged



said the practice has been

studies at Wilex, a German cancer therapy company.
The usually talkative Millar is not saying much, except to confirm that he is working as a consultant for Wilex and for Olaf Wilhelm, its chief execu-

In between legal skirmishes with his former employer, I assume. Millar says: "Wilex is a very interesting company and I'm flattered to be on board. It's a pity I can't get any work in this country."

#### Fresh start

ONLY days after the temporary monk, Jim O'Donnell, gave up the paths of the Lord to return to Mammon. I learn of another mid-life crisis in the City. Richard Broadbent, joint head of corporate finance at Schroders, is dropping out of the nine-to-five.

Broadbent - 46 and confusingly, no relation to his former boss Adam — surprised every-one when he resigned from the bank yesterday.
"He wants to do something

else with his life," Win Bischoff, Schroders' chairman tells me. "He is going to take some time off and decide what he is going to do. He assures me he is not going to a competi-

O'Donnell, who was at HSBC, spent just 18 months as a monk before kicking the habit and joining Salomon Smith Barney. I would not bet against Broadbent's eventual return either.

PURA FOODS, producer of food and cooking oils, yesterday slapped a writ on the mighty Shell organisation, producer of pious documents on corporate ethics alleging trademark infringement and passing off.
The inedible oil company

had launched its own Pura, a new make of diesel oll, earlier this year. The edible Pura alleges "tremendous embarrassment and confusion" which has necessitated the hiring of City solicitor Eversheds. The complaint is that its edible oil and Shell's diesel are both being sold under the same name. You mean there's a difference?

## **Polling boot**

A RARE glimpse into the inse-curities of political life from Lord, formerly Dr David, Owen, at the Reform Club for the launch of the first pam-phlet from his New Europe

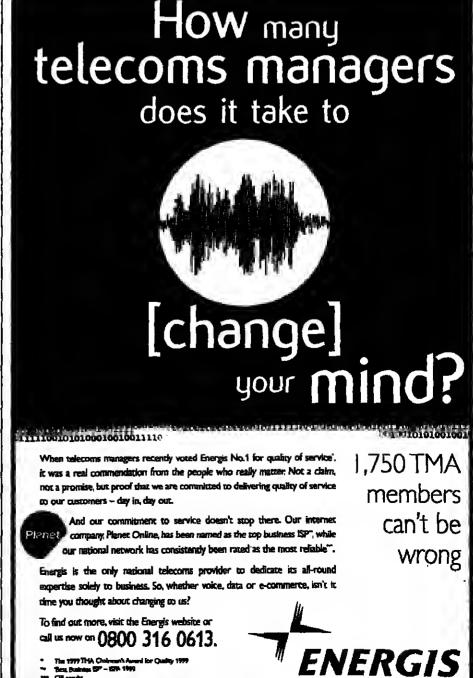
pressure group.

The talk came around to the next election, and Owen said politicians were disinclined to trust the opinion polls. "Mrs Thatcher packed her bags in 83 and 87," he claimed. "t used to look up the vacancies in the British Medical Journal before every election."

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk



Lord Owen: scanned the situations vacant columns



# Businesslike approach is vital on internal controls

#### Nigel Turnbull

on proposals

for the way

companies

oversee

their risks

t the start of this decade, there was little formal guidance on corporate governance beyond that contained in company law. Then came the Cadbury Report, the Rutteman guidance on internal financial control. the Greenbury Report on direc-tors' remuneration and, most recently, the Combined Code of the Hampel Committee. This week, another set of proposals, this time on internal controls broadly defined, has landed on boardmorn table. So why are they needed?

In one sense, the answer is combined code was published last summer, the institute of Chartered Accountants agreed with the Stock Exchange that it would set up a working party to develop guidance to assist listed companies to implement the new requirements on internal control.

Principle D2 of the code calls on boards to "maintain a sound system of internal control to safeguard shareholders' investment and the company's assets", while a related code provision requires companies to review that system's effectiveness at least annually.

The underlying reason, of course, for the preparation of the guidance on internal control is that, as the wording of the principle highlights, it has a vital role to play in ensuring that a business is well run. That said, it complements, and is not a substitute for, entrepreneurship. In a market economy, profits are the reward for successful riskcontrol is to manage risk appropriately rather than to elininate it. The nature of a

Tale of wisdom

without peer



Nigel Turnbull says reviews of controls must be firmly embedded in companies' operations

group's principal risks will depend, for example, on the areas of the world in which it trades, on the industries in which it operates and on

company-specific factors.

The working party has therefore sought to develop practical and robust guidance that groups can tailor to their circumstances. This is far better than imposing a one-size-fits-all set of detailed rules, though we recognise that it is not the easy option and is more challenging for directors and auditors. Moreover, the working party believes that the process for reviewing the internal control system should be firmly embedded in the group's ongoing operations and not treated as an exercise just undertaken for regulatory

The board may wish to delegate aspects of its review of effectiveness to, say, its audit committee, but it must form its own opinion on the review's overall adequacy. It is proposed that the board, or a relevant committee, should regularly review reports on control issues, probably on a cyclical basis in respect of different parts of the business. Factors to be considered include the key risks in the section of the

business being reviewed and how they have been identified, evaluated and managed, the effectiveness of the related control system and whether weaknesses found are being reme-

died promptly.

In addition to the regular reviews, boards will need to undertake a specific annual review exercise ahead of the annual report being approved.

This should cover, for example, changes since the last review in the nature and extent of significant risks: the group's ability to respond effectively to change; the quality of management's ongoing monitoring of internal

working party is seeking to promote the provision of mean-ingful high-level information while avoiding voluminous detail that does not provide an insight to the company's ap-proach to internal control. isted companies will be

impact of major control weaknesses and the effectiveness of

the year-end financial report-

In groups in which no inter-nal audit function exists, the

board will be expected to con-

sider the need for one annual-

ly: similarly, if it does have

such a function, it should re-

view its remit, authority, re-

sources and scope of work

Turning to disclosures, the

ing process.

once a year.

required to confirm that there is an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the company's key risks, and that it is regularly reviewed by the board and accords with the guidance. As the guidance sets out very clearly the processes to be followed in maintaining a sound control system, this disclosure is at the same time both concise and powerful.

It is also proposed that companies should explain how the board reviewed the effectiveness of the review process and that when the board is unable to make either of these disclosures, it should explain what it is doing to rectify the situation.

To enable listed companies to make necessary changes to come into line with the new guidance, a phased implementation over the current and next accounting periods is

proposed. I would urge all boards of listed companies, their auditors and the users of their annual reports to read the propos-als in full and to submit their comments by June 14.

Nigel Turnbull is chairman of the Internal Control Working Porty of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Woles and finance director of Rank Group.

Copies of the proposal are available on www.icaew.co.ilk/ internalcontrol

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RUMOUR has it that Colin over the possibility of abscond-Sharman, the indefatigable ing to Arthur Andersen being but the tip of the iceberg when knocker of heads together in his quest to make KPMG a it comes to the problems of truly global firm, has been wonherding international partners dering whether there is not an all into the one organisation. So easier way of making a living. it comes as no surprise that As international chairman, his Sharman has given some role has not been a bed of roses. thought to imparting his busi-Curmudgeonly Canadians ness wisdom in a wider forum. leading him a merry dance It is said that he fancies a life

peerage so that the nation can hear his thoughts more clearly from the House of Lords. Step forward the hopeful Lord Sharman of Teffont Magna.

Serious stuff

AT LAST. The news we have been waiting for. The Accounting Standards Board (ASB). and its sister bodies, the Fman-

cial Reporting Council and the Financial Reporting Review Panel, have launched their websites. But they can only be described as disappointments. They are clear, fast and packed with information. But where is the fun? Why is there no league scoreboard showing how the favoured football club of the ASB chairman, Sir Dav-

id Tweedie, the penniless but gunning the financially challenged cloggers of Partick Thistle, the fancy of Ron Paterson of Ernst & Young, Tweedie's deadly technical oppo? Come to that, why is there not a page of Tweedie's famous jokes? It is all very well having an excellent technical summary of something such as FRS13, but accountants cannot live by bread alone.

Flying high

IT WAS a triumph for John Connolly at the great Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu global jamboree in London last week. Not only was he confirmed as new Deloitte & Touche UK senior partner and chief executive, but he was also made global managing partner for the assurance, accounting and advisory practices of the worldwide firm. That means he is in command of more than 60 per cent of the firm's international fees. Not bad for the Mancunian high-flyer known universally as "The Fat Controller" in his North Country days.

ROBERT BRUCE

# Monet proves the case for a little dash of grey in the executive picture

ROBERT

BRUCE

IF ANYONE ever gets round to writing a history of business sponsorship of the arts, then the efforts of Ernst & Young will score highly on the success list. Their latest effort, the sponsorship of the Monet exhibition at the Royal Academy, came to an end last Sunday. It was the most popular art exhibition gray hold in this country. hibition ever held in this country. Some 813,000 people saw it, and the Royal Academy took £3.9 million in ticket sales. And it was also a great critical as well as popular, success.

However, for an "absolutely delighted" Ernst & Young, there were other figures to measure. More than 32,000 Ernst & Young employees and guests saw the exhibition, including more than 8,000 clients. This is the higgest success figure. To have access to such a massive "must-see" show. and for it to be an art exhibition, at which it is the most natural thing in the world to char beforehand or as you go around the pictures, scores highly over any other type

of business sponsorship. And Ernst & Young ran it well. It was slightly cerie to find that as you left at the end of an evening viewing you could see another tranche of guests emerging from dinner in the floors above and moving down to take over your place in front of the water-lily ponds. The organisation was phenome-

However, for the accounting world, there was another lesson to be learnt from the exhibition. And it is rather an ironic one. The exhibition consisted entirely of Monet's work from this century. It re-

vealed the work of a highly
motivated, energetic and
hard-working artist. The earliest work dated from the point at which Monet was
aged 60. The last work dated from the last
year of his life, when he was 86. The partnership deeds of the large accountancy firms ban anyone from remaining a partner over the age of 60. At the point where Monet was starting to produce some of his finest work, any senior accountant is being turfed out of the firm and told that productive life is over. On the new global board of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, John Connolly, the UK senior partner, is the old-est member. He is 48. Indeed, it is unusual to find any partner over the age of 55 still

in anything approaching full harness in an accounting firm these days. This trend is beginning to cause anxiety, particularly in America. For some years, it has been obvious that the average age of chairmen and chief executives is about a decade higher than that of the average partner who is providing their key advice. In the UK, and particularly in America. the average age of corporate chiefs is mov-ing upwards. The gap in both culture and experience is beginning to cause concern. be lost after all.

Many factors are involved. This is the first generation that has had prosperity on such a scale that comparatively many people can afford to leave full-time work in their early fifties. The fashion is likely to change. The prospect of 30 years' leisure, however you fill it, will pall. There is a limit, however much you may relish the escape from phone, fax and laptops, to how many watercolours you can manage of the rolling Sussex farmland. Most people find the joys of retirement a bit of a mirage. In

the joys of reurement a bit of a mirage. In ten years' time, people will be craving to stay on and be productive, like Monet, un-til the day they drop.

There are also differences in style. The corporate world is far less pressured than that of professional service firms. Partners in law and account new firms work harder in law and accountancy firms work harder than their clients tend to in the corporate sector. So burn-out is a factor. So is the risk they run of working in a business where they take unlimited financial liabili-

ty for anything going wrong. If you have done well, there must be an argument at 51 for saying. Let's get out while the go-

Partners in audit work also face pressures with the quite recent introduction of the rule that only allows audit partners to stay in charge of a specific job for a fixed span of seven years. If you are going to have to give up your biggest client when you are within seven years of a mooted retirement date. you are likely to go at that point rather than stay.

"Once upon a time," a senior member of the profession said this week, "you could tell partners because they had grey hairs. Now they leave before they have got them." It is the old equation of knowledge and experience. For knowledge, you might prefer the doctor who is 45 and vigorously up to date. For experience, you might prefer someone of 60. Accounting firms argue differently. "At the age of 45 people have seen 20 years of the business," said one partner this week. "And they will still have seen two re-

However, the case for lengthening the career span is growing. In America. KPMG is looking to raise its retirement age. Firms will feel the pressure to encourage people to stay on. A proposal will go to the KPMG board in the UK on Monday about how the firm can keep the right people for the right reasons. The answer may well be to mix responsibilities later on so that partners can avoid exhaustion and maximise their value.

The irony of partners in professional firms marvelling at the productivity and imagination of an elderly Monet may not



The last day of Monet in the 20th Century, which took £3.9 million in ticket sales

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A case of too many eggs in one basket.

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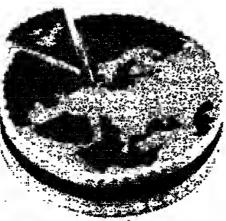
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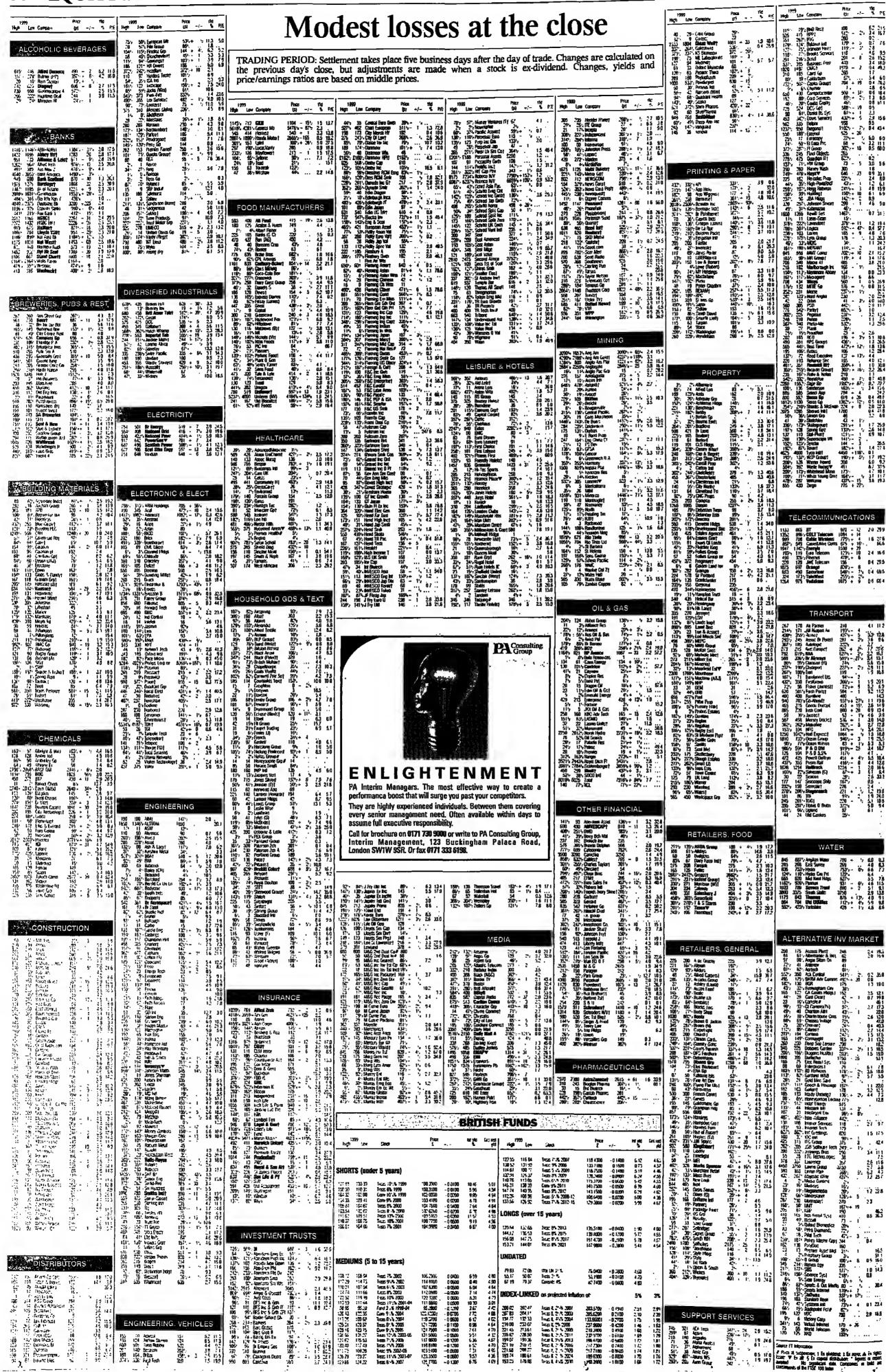
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#### Bargains of the week: photograph the Lake District guided by an expert; cruise the Greek islands; take a trip through Uzbekistan



A selection of last-minute holidays and travel opportunities at home, on the Continent and farther ofield, many at bargain prices

#### BRITISH ISLES

TWO Cornish gardens -Trebah, with its sub-tropical plants, and Carwinion, with its bamboo collection — can be visited for half-price when booking dinner. B&B for £42 a night at the Falmouth Beach Hotel with Consort Hotels. Details: 01326 318084.

■ ABANDON the snows of the North East for the warmth of Jersey any Saturday for the next month. Return flights from Newcastle and three days' car hire will cost £99 with Jersey Travel Service. De-tails: 0181-891 6020.

■THE Yorkshire Dales can be full of gambolling lambs or shrouded in mist at this time of the year. Should the latter

happen, there will be the consolation of exploring Harrogate and its beautiful parks on an early May Bank Holiday coach tour with Andrew's of Tideswell. The trip starts from Derbyshire on May 1 and costs 199, including two nights' half-board. - Details: 01298 871222

VIEWS over the River Dart from a roof-top balcony are available from a luxurious house in Kingswear, South Devon. The house sleeps eight and is now on offer from £494 a week from Toad Hall Cottag-es. Details: 01548 853089.

TURNING views of the Lake District into classy photographs is the aim of a fournight break with Countrywide Holidays from May 3. Walks with an expert photographer, plus picnic lunches and dinner and B&B in Grasmere cost £187. Details: 01942 241432.

REVIVING memories of Britain's finest airmen and the conditions they operated under is possible on a tour with Whistler Breaks of former bases of RAF Bomber and Fighter Command in Lincolnshire. The tour from May 21 to 23 costs £220 with all meals, accommodation and entry fees. Details: 01743 718964.

CORSICA can be wild and beautiful, especially in the north in spring, and good deals to the region are now on offer, both starting on May 16, Tony Dawe writes.

An apartment in the hilltop village of Nonza on a rocky spur above the sea is available for a week with Voyages Hena for £299, including direct flights from Gatwick and car hire. Details: 0171-924 4440.

Closer to the beach - at Moriani — are apartments cost-ing £355 for a week with VFB Holidays, including return flights from Manchester and car hire. Details: 01242 240310.

TENERIFE is a more traditional destination, and a fort-night in apartments in Los Gigantes from May 2 costs £235, based on four sharing, with Lunn Poly including a return flight from Gatwick. Details from Holiday Shops.

■ GREECE and its islands continue to offer great early season deals, with a week's self-catering in Almirida, western Crete, from Tuesday costing £199 with Sunvil Holidays, with a flight from Gatwick. Fly from the same airport the next day and a week in apart-

ments in Lindos, Rhodes, costs £109 with Olympic-Odyssey. Zakynthos for a week from May 2 costs £159 with Direct Greece, also with a Gatwick flight. Details: Sunvil, 0181-568 4499: Olympic, 0181-343 9090: Direct Greece, 0181-785 4000.

CRUISING through the islands is also available at discounts, with a week's trip from Athens on April 30 and May 8 costing £499 with Seafarer. The price includes flights from Gatwick and ports of call include Santorini, Mykonos and Tinos. Details: 01202 685500.

SKIING on into May at bargain prices will be possible with Crystal Holidays, which is offering B&B in Kaprun. Austria, and the chance to ski the Kitzsteinhorn Glacier be-tween May IS and 29. Prices start from El49 for three-night breaks and E189 for a week, with return flights from Gat-wick. Details: 0181-399 5144.

■ PORTO SANTO, near Madeira, is one of the secrets of the travel trade. It boasts a five-mile strand, mountains, a few guest houses and a fourstar hotel, which is available from Prestige Holidays for £S18 for a week from early June with B&B and flights. Details: 01425 480400.



Northern Corsica: wild and beautiful, especially in spring

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ST LUCIA'S jazz festival has become a big international event and this year, between May 8 and 16, the stars will include Ray Charles, Natlie Cole and Roberta Flack. Sovergion is offering a week's all. cign is offering a week's all-inclusive holiday at a four-star resort to coincide with the festival for £989, including flights. Details: 0161-742 2224.

■ BALl remains a dream destination for many and is available at an eye-opening price from Premier Holidays with flights from Gatwick between May I and 15. For example, 12 nights at the Raddin Hotel and the flight costs £669. De-tails: 01223 516677.

■ BIG APPLE breaks are available at special prices during the next two months with Bon Voyage. Fly from Heathrow and spend two nights in New York from £299. Details: 0800 316 0194.

■ MARKETS and Minarets is the title of a tour to the Silk Road cities of Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva with The Imaginative Traveller. The 12-day journey starts in Uzbekistan and costs from £735 with accommodation and

an expert guide. Flights extra: availability in June. Details: 0181-742 8612.

MAN ADVENTURE closer to home is possible with Encounter, which has places on 15-day trips through Morocco, starting on May I and 15. The High Atlas Mountains, the desert, beaches and the main cities will all be visited. Transport is by four-wheel-drive lorries and the £420 price includes food and activities. Flights are extra but can be arranged from £150 return. Details: 0171-370 6845.

■ NORTH AFRICA at a more sedate pace is proposed by Co-op Travelcare, which offers a fortnight's B&B First Choice holiday at a Tunisian resort for £139 if you make the flight from Manchester on Sunday, Details: 0541 500388.

• Prices are per person and based on two sharing a room.



See The Times on Saturday for more flight bargains and last-minute holidays







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THEATRE Ted Hughes's Tales from Ovid in Stratford

## THE SETIMES

MUSICALS Backstage antics in the boyband zone PAGE 41



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NEW MOVIES: Depraved and disturbing it may be, but 8mm holds a curious fascination for James Christopher

## Bold Nic among the real devils

t once disconcerting and thoroughly entertaining, 8mm tackles the darkest area of film: the snuff movie, the killing of a human being for pornographic entertainment. Such depravity may only exist in our imaginations. But that's precisely why this film pro-vokes such strong feelings. Critics have been fulminating about bad taste and moral bankrupicy since Joel Schu-macher's film opened in America last month. But Schumacher's only crime is to take this primal depravity and process it in exactly the same way that Hollywood has been processing its atrocities for decades by encasing them in good old-fashioned thrillers.

It would be hard to invent a more moral private investigator than Nicolas Cage's wellspoken Tom Wells, Cage is sharp, scrupulously polite and he visits clients in a suit and rie. He has manicured nails. a loyal wife, a young daughter and a steady income. He couldn't be more boringly normal. It's the most unassuming role Cage has ever played, and he is utterly magnetic in it.

Summoned to a grand Pennsylvania mansion by the wid-ow of a recently deceased tycoon, Cage is handed a reel of 8mm film in which a half-naked, terrified teenage girl is shown apparently being murdered by a man wearing a black leather mask. It's not Cage's usual beat but, sensitive to old money, he sets off to find out if the film is for real, and whether the girl, named Mary, is still alive.

On the surface, it's business as usual. Reputations have to be protected, discretions guaranteed and fat fees forthcoming. Peace of mind is what's at stake. But as Cage penetrates the neon underworld of the Los Angeles sex trade, his own peace of mind crumbles. The

8mm Odeon Leicester Square 18. 123 mins Nicolas Cage in thriller about snuff movies

Besieged Curzon Mayfair PG, 92 mins Sumptuous romance

Message in a Bottle Warner Village West End 12, 132 mins Corked romance with Kevin Costner

Side Streets Plaza 15, 131 mins Depressing trawl through NY's innards The Brylcreem

Boys **ABC Panton Street** 15, 107 mins Corny Irish war movie Out of the Present

U. 96 mins Space documentary Dance With Me Virgin Trocadero

**ABC Piccadilly** 

PG, 126 mins Cuban toe-tapper Misadventures of Margaret ABC Shaftesbury Ave 15, 92 mins

Fine cast commits

adultery

evidence leads him on a Dante-esque quest into a dehumanising hell of pornographic dungeons. His guide is Jöaquin Phoenix's leather-trousered shop assistant. With his Puckish face and endless drollities, Phoenix provides a blast of di-



Straitlaced private eye Nicolas Cage gets a guided tour to the seamier side of life from Joaquin Phoenix in the frequently gripping thriller, 8mm

vine comedy. He reads Tru-man Capote novels behind mucky magazines and cheekily tortures Cage about how porn messes with your head. Cage's features duly droop; phone calls to his wife grow increasingly strained.

But, having led us so wittily into a heart of darkness, Schu-Stormare and Chris Bauer) pornographers all, with permacher's film then becomes inverted minds, deranged egos toxicated by sensation, lurchand a wicked collection of eviling like a drunk from one looking toys - pops up like dank warehouse to another. A old cartoons from the Batman cast of deliciously sleazy vilserials Schumacher recently lains (James Gadolfini, Peter murdered. The playful meta-

phors become hammy. The moment Cage drops his distance to become a Hamletstyle vigilante is the moment the film's credibility starts imcrude sense, but a gripping moral thriller gives way to an action movie. The devious plot too, throttles the deviant issues raised by the serial chiller writer, Andrew Kevin Walker (who was responsible for Seven). That said, the flashy suspense never lets up. I'm probably on my own here, but I rather enjoyed it, warts and.

well, more warts.

ernardo Bertolucci is no stranger to controversy, but his latest film, Besieged, is simply a gem. Taken from a short story by James Lasdun. the film charts the infatuation of a reclusive English pianist (David Thewlis) with his be-witching African cleaner (Thandie Newton). Newton, an impoverished medical student, earns her keep by scrub-bing Thewlis's dilapidated palazzo in Rome. With his lopsided smile, huge nose and silly waggle of the head. Thewlis is the most nerdish romantic. Tight-lipped, middle-aged and

lonely with it.
The first half hour is virtually wordless, but it's supremely eloquent. Newton maintains a formal distance: intensely vulnerable. effortlessly exotic. Her nightmare flashbacks to Africa reveal a husband who has been incarcerated as a political prisoner. An angry outburst on the marble spiral stairs that link, yet separate, Thewlis and Newton, results in the most subtle of blackmail. To prove his love. Thewlis quietly sells all he possesses to ransom her husband. It's the most quixotic of gestures, the most selfless of gambles. The cinematography is exquisite and the culture clash of music is as emblematic as you want it to be. Bertolucci has entered his vintage years. Don't miss out.

Milkmen from Land's End to John O'Groats will rue the day Luis Mandoki's Message in a Bottle was released in Britain. When Robin Wright

LINKS

Wednesday 11pm Barry Norman's Film Night: Sky Premier, Sunday 9pm

Penn's mosy journalist discovers said bottle washed up on the beach, she uncorks a tearjerking romance that sweeps her into the hairy arms of Kevin Costner's brooding boatbuilder, Garret Blake. This is a low-salt, high-spend love story, rather more enamoured of the Maine coastline than it is

Cosmer's widowed sceptic and Penn's supernaturally preeach other like a couple of gawky adolescents. He is Heathcliffe in all but name; she is rather more successful as a hot water bottle than a therapist. Lost? Marooned more like. The best that can be said is that the story bobs along like the bottle, clunking into Paul Newman's recovering alcoholic who fiddles with boat engines and cuts up rough in the local diner. Costner makes smalltalk as enjoyable as breaking boulders. Penn oozes and gushes like the tide. The chunky knitwear

speaks volumes. Terence Ryan's The Brylcreem Boys is the most unbelievable piece of baloney. Here, under the twinkling eye of Gabriel Byrne's camp commander and the ludicrous fat brother, an ageing Bolly-

scowl of Joe McGann's camp bastard, spiffing Allied troops and charmless German soldiers are interned together to underline Ireland's strict neutrality during the Second World War. Although separated by a barbed wire fence, the enemies enjoy the same privileges: day passes to the local races, shindigs in the local pub and for two of them - Bill Campbell's idealistic Canadi-MacFadyen's plump, scarfaced German ace - a fight

for the hand of Jean Butler's Riverdance farm-lass. With mad ambition the film sets itself up as a tragic romance. The reality is Dad's Army, The Great Escape and the Carry On films pinned together with cod-Nazi accents, dusty stereotypes and clichés that make your toes curl in delighted disbelief. It's so awful it's almost magnificent.

Tony Gerber's Side Streets spends 24 hours exploring the crashed dreams of losers in New York's ethnic melting pot and, boy, does it dribble by. Art Malik's Indian taxi driver never gets paid by any of his fares. His tiny house has been taken over by his enormously

wood idol (Shashi Kapoor). His harassed wife is a bowl of peanuts away from murdering the glamorous has-been. Valeria Golino's dress designer has no customers, and an eviction order. David Vadim's Romanian butcher boy gets locked in a freezer. John Ortiz's seedy Puerto Rican is mugged trying to impress his new teenage lover.

Gerber grimly stitches these non-stories into an excuse to avoid New York's back streets altogether. The acting is stringently unsympathetic, the film even more so. Ugh.

What kind of people aspire to manning a tin can in space designed by Blue Peter presenters? The answer can be found in Andrei Ujica's ultimate fly-on-the-wall documen-tary. Out of the Present. In 1991-92 two brave and uncomplicated Russian cosmonauts. Anatoli Arzebarsky and Sergei Krikalyov, spent months rattling around the Mir space station. On the one hand it's the Russian equivalent of The Right Stuff. On the other it's a serious account of endurance.

The calculated thrill is that the men who edited this video diary make the men who lived it entirely blind to the ironies of their mission. The astronauts are willing, childish participanis. They listen to pop music, eat disgusting bags of food and frolic in a vacuum as if they were in a youth hostel for eggheads. The message is simple: space is utterly meaningless without the Earth, and what goes on on Earth is utterly meaningless in space.

ance With Me is a kitsch feast for Come Dancing enthusiasts with a little Latin heartache on the side. A chunky Cuban hunk, Rafael (the Latin American music star, Chayanne), washes mirrors in a dilapidated Texas dance studio for a motley band of hoofers: foxy Vanessa L. Williams, miscast Joan Plowright. raddled Kris Kristofferson (need we go on?). With a grin sows Cuban magic in the hearts of these mislits. The sentiment is as choreographed as the salsa. It goes on for ever.

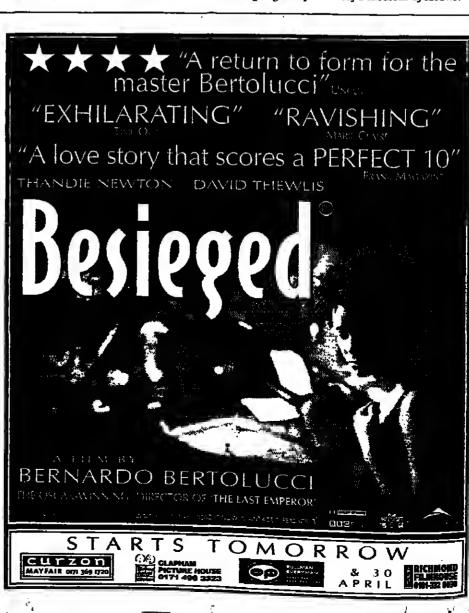
Brian Skeet's movie, Misadventures of Margaret, throws a classy young cast into the most dismal sex-obsessed potboiler. An impossibly chic couple. Parker Posey and Jeremy Northam, flirt with adultery after seven years of married bliss. She takes off to France to write a bodice-ripping sex fantasy. He quotes Walt Whitman to a busty student group-ie in New York. Their friends, Elizabeth McGovern and Brooke Shields, polish their epithets on their crumpling marriage. It desperately aspires to be grown-up but the veneer of sophistication extends only to Posey's fabulous eyebrows.

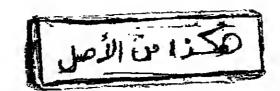












# Ready for your revival, Ms Bisset?

sensed that the director Marshall Herskovitz couldn't decide whether to give her a key role in his period drama The Honest Courtesan, she decided to convince him. At 54, Bisset's track record - The Deep. The Thief Who Came To Dinner. Bullitt. Rich and Famous and François Truffaut's Day For Night among more than 50 films should speak for itself. But the British actress, who has lived in California since the late 1960s, is a realist when confronted with the Holly-

nes Christopher

wood system she knows so well. They were thinking of me for The Honest Courtesan and I had a meeong with the director and I could tell they were looking at other people, too," says Bisset, "I sensed that they were looking for a bigger name, someone who is more current, someone from a hot TV series, whatever. And I was getting very

frustrated by the whole thing.
"So I said to myself: 'I'm perfectly
good for this role and I know that I can be really great in this part. I can't think of anyone else who could do it better.' So I put together a piece of film to show him. I did a monologue, related to the characier; I dressed myself up so I wouldn't look contemporary. I put together something that looked period-ish: I put a piece of string around my forehead, I found a blouse and a corset and I played dress-up. I sent him the film and it worked. I got the part."

Bisset may be a realist but she forces herself to be an optimist, too. While other actresses of a certain age bemoan their lot and rightly point out that decent roles for older women are as rare as snowflakes in Santa Monica, she has her own, very positive, mantra,

There is all this talk that beyond a certain age it is difficult for actresses, but I refuse to accept that. I mean. I just hate that phrase a certain age' and it annoys me when in every interview you read everyone is whining on about this, that and the other.

"I make myself be positive. I say OK, you are bloody lucky to be working. Why are you working? Because you have a good attitude. Get rid of the rubbish and remember there are thousands of people who would love to have this job and get on and make the best of it. It will be terrific. And it usually is."

In recent years, after a lean spell during her forties, things have cerWhat becomes a legend most? In the case of Jacqueline Bisset, not being too proud to audition. Martyn Palmer reports

'a certain

age'?

tainly been terrific for Bisset's career. Since making The Honest Courtesan almost two years ago —
its release was delayed because of distribution problems - she has completed six more films, including two for TV, back to back.

I've worked in France, Australia and Czechoslovakia, as well as the States. It's been very positive. I have energy and I want to work with the people I find interesting and on worthwhile projects. I don't need to do enormous parts, I was never attracted to them. but I do like to work."

in The Honest Courtesan she was able to find an outlet for some of that hard-edged realism in the role of Paola Franco, a mother who knows that her beautiful daughter Veronica (Catherine McCormack) will never be allowed to marry the handsome young aristocrat (Rufus Sewell) she has fallen in love with because of her lowly social standing. Instead, she reveals to

Veronica that she was once a courtesan, a beautiful escort who provided sexual favours for the richest and most powerful men in l6th-century Venice, and she encourages her daughter to follow the same path. Bisset was intrigued by the subject-matter - a mother basically pimping for her daughter - and feels that Paola is trying to help her child in the most practical way.

"I like period pieces and I hadn't done anything from this time be-fore," she says. "And the subject did fascinate me, the whole business of the courtesans and the relationship between the mother and daughter.

"I believe that it's important that people who have children should pass on what they know and that's what Paola is doing. Paola knows that her daughter has to face reality. She can become a nun or she can become a courtesan."

Bisset believes it is a theme that is still relevant today. Born into an upper middle class family in rural Berkshire. Bisset remembers that her own parents — her mother was a lawyer before marrying her late father, a GP -- were not from a generation about to pass on tips about sex and men, although they did give her many positive values 10 take into the world.

"I was given a great deal by my family in terms of education but I wasn't given anything practical like this. God, it would have been amazing to have known stuff about men instead of struggling and not hav-ing a clue and frequently feeling racked with guilt about things. Personally, I was in between two very

different generations; my parents came from a generation where disci-I really pline was prevalent and then I was growing up hate to in the Sixties which was the exact opposite. "And I feel that every-thing that I was taught hear that phrase:

at school is now irrelevant; pounds, shillings and pence, miles and yards, things like that, have all gone. What remains strong in me is what my parents taught me: my manners, my sense of the world

through them, through reading the books around the house, rather than anything I learnt in a history esson.

After leaving school, Bisset worked, briefly, as a model and then won a small role in The Knack directed by Richard Lester, a knockabout comedy set in swinging Six-ties London. She was spotted by Ro-man Polanski who cast her in his black comedy Cul de Sac and, in the same year, she made Day for Night with Truffaut. Soon Hollywood was beckoning.
Once named as the most beauti-

ful woman in the world, Bisset is still striking. There are a few lines around those deep, sea-green eyes, but her body is in peak condition thanks to a disciplined routine of diet and exercise and, she says, that positive outlook on life.

"I think I do have a healthy attitude. I know when I don't work I sometimes get morbid but I think. most actors are like that. But what I'm happy about is that I'm not freaking out about getting older. "I mean I come to stay at a nice hotel and I see the strawberry jam, the whipped cream and the somes, or whatever, and I can't resist — and I don't want to resist — but I know that I will have to pay. But I get on that damned treadmill and I sweat and then I feel like taking on the world. I do that five times a week and it gives me that bit of an edge and, occasionally, allows me to eat some of the things I wouldn't be able to eat if I didn't do it."

She has never married but there have been several well-publicised love affairs, notably with the Russian ballet dancer Alexander Godunov, who died following an alcohol-ic binge shortly after they split up. For the past five years she has been living with Emin Bostepe, a Turkish-born martial arts expert.

She arrived in Hollywood at the age of 23 and was planning to stay for just three weeks. Although she makes frequent trips back to London to see her mother, she has lived in California ever since. "I had no intention of staying," she says. "I was going to be there for three weeks and then come home. Then I fell in love with someone and that was it. And, of course, there were things that I really liked about being there; the light, for instance, gave me a great sense of energy after growing up in a dark house in cold and rainy England. And I wanted to move away from the tra-ditional. I wanted to stop being an introvert.

t that time, cinema was entering a highly creative period. The new breed of directors - Coppola, Lucas, Polanski, Scorsese - were breaking through, "I didn't know anything about them," she laughs, "I didn't know a thing about anybody. I was busy learning how to be a woman. But it was a good time for me. When you leave a place like London and go to a place like Cali-fornia was then, not nearly so sophisticated, you have to work much harder on yourself.

But if you have a lively mind you have to do it yourself. Whereas f you stay in a place like London, where it's all there, you could turn into a sponge. You could just become one of those women who just go to good restaurants, swan around and go to parties and wake up having lost your looks and not knowing a damn thing. I never wanted that ..." The Honest Courtesan opens in Brit-

ain on April 30



## Heading for Hollywood



From Tufnell Park to LA:

opening of yet anoth-er Shakespeare movie, this time getting the full Hollywood treatment with Michelle Pfeiffer and Kevin Kline. But the music for Midsummer Night's Dream will be anything but American: the composer is an Englishman who has become one of the most sought-after composers in cinema.

Simon Boswell's credits include Shallow Grave and This Year's Love and he has just started his next major project, co-writing the score with Elton

Composer Simon Boswell is making his name in movies, says Paul Nathanson

out to Los Angeles to help to create something modern and radical" for the drama starring Helena Bonham Carter. Tim Tales, due later this year. Michael Hoffman, Midsummer's director, asked for something with wit and beauty

and mystery and magic and yearning and strangeness and romance and intelligence and sophistication and simplicity and sensibility and burnour". Boswell obliged by translating this into medieval music and Persian rhythms played on ancient Roman instruments.

Roth's remit was completely different for his raw study of incest: The War Zone's music was cut back to the minimum.

sic in a film the composer isn't

Film Four/VCI, 15, 1998

WITH Seventies British glam-

rock as the subject, you expect exciting if bloated music, androgynous caperings, and vis-ual dazzlements galore. Ameri-can indie director Todd Haynes gives us all this, though the needlessly compli-cated script makes it hard to get pulled in emotionally. Jonathan Rhys Meyers plays the central figure, a Bowieesque performer called Brian Slade whose career shrinks to vanishing point. But it's Ewan McGregor, as an audacious American rock star nearly ob-literated by drugs, who per-forms with enough force to break through the frenzy. Toni

something mildly interesting. Michael Douglas is the comgo Mortensen) to execute the

## Glam acting

**NEW RELEASES ON VIDEO** 

perfect murder. Gwyneth Paltrow swans around as the wife in peril. Alas, none of the characters engages our sympathies, although the technicians' commentary is interesting.

THANK GOD HE MET LIZZIE

Fox Pathe, 12, 1997 YOU'D have thought Cate Blanchett's presence in this thin but likeable Australian

groom's worrying memories of an earlier, jollier relationship with working-class Jenny (Frances O'Connor). A rental

out into the cinemas here. In-

stead, it stays on video. The

star of Elizabeth plays Lizzie

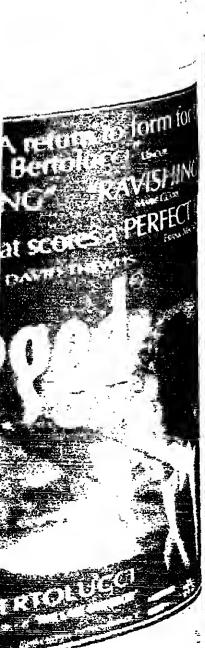
(who else?); and the general cel-

ebrations on her chic wedding

day get shaken up by the

**GEOFF BROWN** 





LONDON

SLEEP WITH ME: Penny Downie.
Jonathen Hyde end Adrien Lukis star
in Henit Kureich's trag-come settre
exposing the checile lives of a group
of friends. Anthony Page directs.
Cottestoe (0171-452 3000). Opens
toright, 7pm. in repertoire. (9)

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA: The

acclaimed Schumenn specialist Christian Thleiemann leads the PO

Christian Thielemann leads the PO for the second time this season. Top of the evening's programme is Schumann's exuberant Konzenstück followed by Brahms's Symphony No 4 and Mozart's Violin Concerto No 3, 1(216, with Christian Tetzlaff as soloist. Festival Hall (0171-960 4242).
Tonight, 7,30pm. (2)

THE CUCKOO AND THE NIGHTINGALE: Another Nazi faces interrogation, this time Rudolf Hess quizzed by his Spandau guard in Don Hood's two-hander.
New End. NW3 (0171-794 0022).
Opens tonight, 7.30pm. [2]

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

# ARTS Ancient Music gala Mythic feast of Father Ted With a

o the world is in some sense ruled by reason? That was what Pentheus thought, and Pentheus was wrong, not only about others, but about himself. As Ovid recorded in about ADIO and Ted Hughes repeated with lyrical savagery in 1997, Pentheus was half-mad with vindictive emotion. "Something insane behind his eyes tore off its straitjacket"; and, raging at Bacchus and his worshippers, he stormed up Mount Cithaeron, where his head was torn off by his mother. That is one of ten stories Tim Sup-

ple and Simon Reade have extracted

THEATRE

from Hughes's slimmed-down ver-sion of the 250 tales in Ovid's Metamorphoses; and it is by no means

their most daunting illustration of

the intensity of human passion. That accolade goes to the tale of Tereus, whose desire for his sister-in-law Philomela was so overpowering that he imprisoned and raped her and cut out her tongue, assuming this would ensure her silence. How mistaken he

was. To tiny, queasy moans from the Swan audience, Mark Bonnar's swag-

gering Tereus ends up munching a

yellow ragout made out of the innards of his son, killed by a wife so

consumed with revenge that "good

and evil, right and wrong, forgot

this millennium in an especially

smug mood, but, if anyone is, Sup-

ple's work might give him or her a sal-

utary churning. He is a director with

a huge interest in the collective uncon-

scious, and especially its more uncon-

scionable aspects. But his Grimm

Tales and More Grimm Tales.

though they included their quota of

oven-baked witches and ugly sisters

blinded by birds, can scarcely com-

pete with the Metamorphoses when it comes to imaginative scope and

I cannot imagine anyone exiting

their differences".

Christian Thielemann conducts at the RFH

SONGS GALORIE: Returns only for this recital in which the aliver-timbred Danish sograno linger Dam-Jensen gives her first solo performance here. A radiant programme includes songs by Schubert, Grieg, Nielsen and Strauss. The excellent Roger Vignoles accompanies on the peano. EDINBURGH: Eminent conductor of period music Frans Brüggen takes the beton with the Scottlish Chamber Orchestra and Chorus in this performance of Bach's glonous Mass in 8 minor. A starry line-up of soloista includes Emma Kirthy, soprano, Caliterine Wyn-Rogers, alto, James Orley, tenor and Neaf Devise, bass. St Many's Cathedral (0131-668 2019), Tonight, 7.45pm.

ELSEWHERE WATFORD: Cathryn Harrison and Marty Cruikshank in Elleen Atldins's much-admired Vita and Virginia, hased on the letters between V. Sackville-West and V. Woolf, Maria Atlden directs (01923 225671). Opens lonight, 7.45pm. COVENTRY: in Alex Jones's new comedy Phill and Jilli and Jilli and Jilli and Phill an unappreciated wife and her chauvenist husband are sex-change by a magic poston. Belgrade (1)203 553055).

Opens tonight, 7.30pm.

#### **NEW WEST END SHOWS**

■ House tuil, returns only 🏿 Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

MANIMA MIAI: Enjoyable musical tells a tale of three fathers of a bride, to steer a barmy way through a norrent of Abba hits. Siobhan McCarthy and Lisa Stokke play mother and daughter on the eve of the girl's wedding. Phyllida Lloyd directs. Prince Edward (0171-447 5400).

☐ ESCAPE FROM PTERADACTYL ISLAND: Award-winning American musical based on the genre of early so-in novels, with new rock'n roll songs from Michael Jeffery. Pleasance Theatre (0171-609 1800).

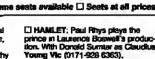
SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER: Shela Gish plays the venomous mother and Rachel Weisz, the traumatised niece in the famous Tonnessee Williams shocker, Seen Marhies directs, Comedy Theatre (0171-369 1731).

☐ MAKING NOISE QUIETLY; Domi-nic Dromgoole's Oxford Stage Co opens a London season with Robert Holman's tidogy of short plays when strangers meet at a time of war. Eleanor ds the cast. Il Theatre (0171-369 1735.

prince in Laurence Boswell's produc-tion. With Donald Sumter as Claudius. Young Vic (0171-928 6363).

☐ HUSHABYE MOUNTAIN: Jonat scenes set in Heaven, where Judy Garland welcomes the dead partne Hampsteed (0171-722 9301), (5)

☐ THE GARDEN OF HABUSTAN:
Besht Tellers performs Rebecce Wolman's play, Ancestral ghosts by to explain today's disputes between Pelestiman and laraeli. See review, right.
Tricycle (0171-326 1000).



CI THE GIN GAME: Donothy Tutin and Joss Ackland play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing styles echo their said fives.
Savoy (0171-836 8888). Harvey's bittersweet comedy about a relationship broken by Aids. Some

☐ THE DISPUTE: Superb production by Neil Bartlett of his translation of Manyaux where four imprisoned addlesscents meet the world and each other for the first time. Lyric, W6 (0181-741 2311).

#### FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

**NEW RELEASES** AN IDEAL HUSBAND (PGI: Oliver Art incent and a company of the comp

HAPPINESS (18): Poisonous but gripping black comedy about dismal Todd Solondz's film walks an original, edgy line between fantastic humour and ghastly habits.

RETURN TO PARADISE (15): Joseph Ruben's crisis of cons film is only a fitful suspense about lwo American buddles who face years in a Malaysian prison if they return to help their condemned buddy. With

PROMETHEUS (15): Tony Hamson's dense film-poem is a work of surrea genius and endless layers. Michael Fessi is competing as Zao's flunky who looks at what we have achieve and destroyed with his stolen fire.

ACTRESSES (15): Three tamous Cetatonian stage actresses stir up old lealousles. Too stagey, too selfof a stug. A static self-indulgent piece

CURRENT

A CIVIL ACTION (15): Meaty count-room drame with John Travolle and Robert Duvall in sparking form as two sharks in a multi-million dollar case about toxic dumping. Steven Zaillian directs.

BEDROOMS & HALLWAYS (15): Playful rementle cornedy about male ith Simon Ca miscast as a heterosexual New Age Svengall, Rose Troche directs.

THE FACULTY (15): Fishy sci-ti chiller with high comedy quote from Kevin Williamson, the scale behind Scream. A faculty of schoolteschers get taken over by alien squids from outer space. Director Robert Rodriguez flogs the creeping paramora with seat-duching wit.

SLAM (15): Saul Williams puts in a sensational performance as a black rep poet caught up in the Washington

HIGH ART (18): Ally Sheedy and Radha Milchell spread lesblan glod and doorn in an upmariest photographic magazine. Onugs, decadence and Fassbinder fail to illuminate Lisa Cholodenko's constituted molecular.



Ancient Romans, modern morals: Fergus O'Donnell (Bacchus, centre) and Antony Byrne (Midas, bottom right) in Tim Supple's fine adaptation

s Semele opened at

-ENO, the Queen of

her entry at Smith Square.

Her arrival, on London's glo-

rious night of Handel, came

in a gala in aid of the Tho-

mas Coram Foundation for

benefit concert for Coram's Foundling Hospital "for the

Maintenance and Education

of Exposed and Deserted

change; but neither did the

music. This concert was a re-

construction of that original.

The programme text was a

facsimile of the original; the

programme notes - some of

From Purcell's Dido to

Young Children".

Times do not,

metaphysical size. If your own or someone else's desire does not destroy you, some god is all too likely to punish your frailties by transforming you into a spider or some temple steps. Supple's other knack is for bring-

ing old stories vividly to life by the sparest means. The props he uses on a near-bare Swan stage are streamers, scarves, rags to suggest Pentheus's ripped-out arms, a rope to in-

rough binding-cloths for the bark that encircles Sirine Saba's distraught Myrrha, who is turned into a tree after letting herself be over-whelmed by her lust for her father: but it is enough. The ten-person RSC cast is not as physically adroit and in-ventive as its Grimm counterparts, but it brings an exhilarating energy to the task of reminding us of our mythic heritage.

Supple and Reade could have picked their key tales differently - where are the Creation legends? — but they still give us a satisfying variety. Part One, in which Sam Dastor's fine, grave Tiresias and Fergus O'Donnell's indolently voluptuous Bacchus are the dominant figures, brings onstage Echo and Pentheus, Arachne and poor, pulverised Semele. Part Two has its relaxed moments, nota-And what a heritage! Doubtless bly when Antony Byrne's Midas is de-

veloping his gold-phobia or earning his asses' ears, but these are more than balanced by Tereus and Myrrha and even Salmacis, the stalker-nymph whose obsession with Hermanhroditus ends up by fusing him and her into a swirl of off-white muslin and naked bodies. The sponsors Laphroaig have been well repaid.

> BENEDICT **NIGHTINGALE**

## My land, your land

t the beginning of Re-becca Wolman's new play about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the three actors emerge Eden-like from the ground, winding them-selves around the branches of a starkly-lit fig tree. It is a fitting start to a play which reminds us that none of us has an absolute claim to the land we briefly inhabit, and which is notable throughout for a strikingly effective economy of image and action.

Told by Wolman's own company, Besht Tellers, through a closely-woven mix of narrative, dramatisation and symbolism, The Garden of Habustan plays out in miniature the disputed land claims that lie intractably at the heart of the conflict. The story, as it gradually but clearly emerges, turns around a young Israeli named Yoni (Jalaal Hartley). On the eve of Yoni's conscription into the army, an old Palestinian



clutching the dismembered re-mains of his grandson. They spring at each other with instinctive mistrust; but when he learns that Abu Deeb's past is inextricably linked to his own. Yoni starts to question the stark simplicities of the worldview inherited from his aggressively Zionist grandfather.

Wolman's script is finely balanced; though the focus is on the Jewish family she gives equal weight to the claims and grievances of both sides. She also has an Israeli playing a Palestinian and a Greek Cypriot playing a Palestinian and an Israeli, which makes its own theatrical point. The play ponders the meaning of concepts like courage, terrorism and home, but it avoids simplistic bromides and is leavened by plenty of humour and domestic detail. All three actors are physical-

ly eloquent and movingly em-pathetic, though Savvides could have more confidence in sume of his lines. But the stand-out performance comes from Alit Kreiz, who plays three generations of Israelis as well as a young Arab girl with beautifully articulated variations on the theme of feisty but resigned charm.

I found the first half more sure-footed than the second. But Wolman directs with a lightness of touch that only briefly threatens to over-burden itself with symbolic mean-ing. On the tiny climbingframe of a set, simply and effectively designed by Sue Mayes. she throws a dancing light of vivid moments which find their own organic, almost sensuous rhythm, amplified throughout by music from the jazz saxophonist Theo Travis.

NIGEL CLIFF

### A Sheba was making purpose Children, to mark the 250th anniversary of Handel's first

CONCERT

Tavener the AAM has brought together an extraordinary range of specialist and James Bowman offering virtuoso solo contributions: and as Manze directed a performance of Handel's Op 6 Concerto Grosso in A in which his own cadences and cadenzas seemed to magic the music back to its Italian (and even pre-Italian) roots. These works were flanked

Solomon, with Paul Agnew

HILARY FINCH

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them - were Handel's own. And the evening was presented by the Academy of Ancient Music. It was characteristic of the spirit of the enterprise that the anniversary of the concert threatened to upstage the other great Occa-

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musicians in its 25 years of pioncering what its founder Christopher Hogwood calls "historically informed performances". Since conductor Paul Goodwin and violinist Andrew Manze joined in 1996, a new and lively chemistry has been at work. It was effervescing thrillingly on Monday as Goodwin con-Schubert's Trout, and on to ducted the excerpts from

by two comparative rarities, both conducted by Hogwood: The Anthem on the Peace, written for the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle proclaimed in London in 1749: and The Anthem for the Foundling Hospital. Both are cut-and-paste jobs, recycling music from

Messiah and elsewhere. Some cutting, some paste! The New College Oxford choir relished Handel's metamorphosis of How beautiful are the feet before Emma Kirkby bestowed the "blessing of peace". And at the end the Hallelujah Chorus, no less, rang out from an age when it was barely known.

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Genesis of Paul Bunyan

Great Puccini singers

## Britten's duet with a poet

As the Royal Opera revives Benjamin Britten's Paul

Bunyan, Mike Ashman looks back at the stormy friendship with W.H. Auden that sparked the work

most surprising day, wrote the 22-year-old Benjamin Britten in his diary towards the end of April 1935. "I am booked to do the music to a film on the new Jubilee Stamp . . . '

**OPERA** 

A keen cinemagoer who enjoyed both Walt Disney and Hitchcock, Britten took naturally to the tight working disciplines of film music, and his new employer, the GPO documentary film unit, soon offered a second project. Britteo was driven to Malvern to meet the commentary writer for Coal Face, a 28-year-old school master and poet called Wystan Auden. The composer thought him "the most amazing man, a very brilliant and attractive personality". Auden found Britten "extremely young" but, when be heard Britten's setting of his lyrics, was fired by "his extraordinary musical sensitivity in relation to the English language".

The meeting initiated a close professional and personal relationship — significant to Auden, vital to Britten - but one that would last barely seven years. They collaborated on Night Mail, where Britten accompanied Auden's galloping onomatopoeic verse ("This is the night mail crossing the border/Bringing the cheque and the postal order") with music "compressed employing steam, sandpaper and miniature rails". Then they parodied in The Way To The Sea, a mock epic treatment of Southern Railways' new express to

Britten also provided the

blues) for two of the plays Auden wrote together with Chris-topher Isherwood for the leftwing Group Theatre. There were experimental radio documentaries and a big concert work. Our Hunting Fathers, which used man's treatment of the animal kingdom to symbolise the worsening political situation in 1930s Europe. In the audience sat Frank Bridge, Vaughan Williams and Britten's much loved mother, all in-

shocked provided Britten Auden with verse for cabaret songs and more serious statements. Britten actually set to music two poems almost certainly written to encourage him to be more open about his emotional and sexual feelings. "We were extraordinarily interfering in this respect," remembered Isherwood; Auden (in a mock will) even penned the lines "for my friend Benjamin Britten, composer, I beg/that fortune send him soon a passionate affair".

terested, critical and slightly

Fortune was soon to send both men a passionate affair - and a long journey. Auden was an inveterate traveller in search of political and intellectual action. He moved to New York in January 1936 and met the young student Chester Kallman ("Mr Right has come into my life"). That summer Britten, in part following Auden's lead, reached New York with Peter Pears.

Although always aware of music, Auden had been brought up "to think that opera was impossible". But Kallman loved opera and made a thorough convert out of his new friend. The timing was

good. Britten was on hand and was told by his publishers that opportunities were rife in New York for an operetta that could

be performed by high schools.

If the course of true love now ran relatively smooth for the two expatriate collaborators, that of their first opera did not. Auden was to settle for its subject on Paul Bunyan, the mythological giant American logger. The idea may have started during what the poet called his "honeymoon" holi-day with Kallman — spent partly "in a log cabin with the most wonderful view over towards the mountains of Colorado, our horizon is about 300 miles long. It's very pioneer and you would laugh to see me rising at 6am to chop wood and draw water . . . "

o the legend of Bun-yan seemed a perfect "matter of America" theme. The leading Auden scholar Edward Mendelson notes that John Dryden (much admired by Auden) had written a King Arthur for Pur-cell, "the first and still the only libretto written by a major English poet for a major English composer". Auden would write Paul Bunyan for Britten. and it "would be second".

Britten created a score whose sheer range of expression (and instrumentation) put to good use almost every one of the diverse compositional tasks he had tackled with Auden in the 1930s. Blues, musical "numbers", filmic underscoring, grand operatic paro-dy and shades of Kurt Weill and Alban Berg helped an entertaining "choral operetta" to carry Auden's weightier sub-



Lumberjack song: a scene from the Royal Opera's staging of Paul Bunyan, the opera conceived by Britten and Auden during their time in America

text of "How to live well in a country that the pioneers have made it possible to live in." The eventual (and essential-

y amateur) premiere was at Columbia University in May 1941, and less than successful. "Auden's characters," comments Mendelson, "were American in the same wa that the characters in The Mikado are Japanese, and American critics who were not bored were offended." But the work's first public already seemed to enjoy the hybrid form - more

a play with extended musical numbers than pure operetta that worried the "experts" because they could not precisely tag it. An increasing number of revivals since Britten (slight ly) reworked the score in 1973 has confirmed that popular im-

For the Britten-Auden relationship, however. Bunyan was the beginning of an end. On Peter Pears's prompting, composer and tenor left the Bohemian menage in Brooklyn where their flatmates (during

the run-up to Bunyan's pre-miere) had included Auden, the novelist Carson McCuilers, the writer/composer Paul Bowles and the writer/stripper Gypsy Rose Lee. At first Pears and Britten went West to California, before returning to wartime England.

Just before they left America came Auden's most intrusive lecture yet, written for Pears's eyes as well: "If you are really to develop to your full stature, you will have, I think, to suffer, and make others suffer, in

was on a different track now. ways which are totally strange to you at present." The workand he was no longer prepared to be dominated - buling relationship now trailed off in parallel with the personlied - by Wystan". While Auden (and Kallman) went on to al one. Britten provided incidental music for Auden's joint reworking (with Bertolt Brecht) of The Duchess of Malcreate opera libretti for Igor Stravinsky and Hans Werner Henze, Britten was never to collaborate again with a major fi. But only very small sections living poet in his operas and of their planned collaboration song settings. on a Christmas oratorio called For The Time Being were ever set. An Auden poem was used

Paul Bunyan opens at Sadler's Wells (0171-863 8000) tomorrow with a reduced price preview. Men-delson's Later Auden is published by Faber and Faber in May

## Jobs for the boys

ever have the pop charts been so full of boy bands and never has the West End been host to so many rock musicals. Put the two together and you have a formula which surely cannot fail. That, at least, is the thinking behind Boyband, not a rock musical but a "pop drama", which comes to the London stage in June.

While Buddy and Grease wallow in Fifties nostalgia and Saturday Night Fever and Mamma Mia! revisit the Seventies, Peter Quilter's play is an entirely contemporary take on the pop world. The problem is that the show is all pop and little drama. A successful musical stands or falls on the quality of its songs but at the same time it requires some semblance of a plot. The producers are aware of this, and insist that by the time it gets to the West End it will be a different and better show.

Modelled on groups such as Take That and Boyzone, Quilter's fictioous band Freedom are five young men and they all sing and dance impressive ly particularly Damien Flood's lead singer, Sean, and Daniel Crossley as the songwriter Danny. Many of the songs, too, are convincing, cre-



ated under the supervision of music consultant Tina Mat-thews and several of them, such as All This And Heaven Too, could easily hold their own on the Radio I playlist. The plot, such as it is, in-

volves a manipulative manager played by Bryan Murphy and the band's attempt to wrest back control of their career. Yet the characterisation is thin and the manager's lines clichéd. The power struggle within the band between Sean and Danny, loosely based on the falling out between Take That's Gary Barlow and Robbie Williams, is better drawn yet other interesting sub-plots are undeveloped. We have Matt, the gay one, played engagingly by Tom Ashton, the one who already has a child and the one with a drug problem. All three have to keep their circumstances secret but the dramatic potential of the conflict between public and private lives is merely sketched out rather than coloured in.



The next famous five? Freedom, Boyband's fictitious group

The set is minimal but clever use is made of a video screen to show fictitious interviews and MTV coverage and the choreography, under the direction of Billie's dancemeister Phil Griffin, is powerful. If they can tweak the plot and flesh out the characters a

little more, Boyband will be irresistible. And if they release All This And Heaven Too as a single, life will surely imitate art and Freedom will have a huge chart hit on their hands. WILLIAMSON

**NIGEL** 

here's an awful lot rid-ing on this brand new musical penned by the Scottish actor Forbes Masson, famed thus far as part of a omic team with Alan Cumming. One minute it's a trashy studio-sized affair intended for Glasgow's Tron Theatre, the next director Caroline Hall's Diva Productions have a load of lottery money thrown at them and this self-styled comedy of sex, death and silly songs is touring every major stage in Scotland.

This is essentially Faust revisited for laughs. Nothing new there: Peter Cook and Dudley Moore did it years ago with Bedazzled. But there's something about this every-day tale of impotent smalltown jobsworth George, who wakes up one day wanting more, that taps into the topsyturvy psyche of the male, premillennial thirtysomething in a wholly heartfelt manner.

Getting Stiff onstage has clearly been a labour of love for Masson, who somewhat tellingly takes the lead role in this rumbustious and kitsch affair modelled on camp cult shows of the past 30 years. When Tom McGovern's flamboyant Devil (called Neville) offers George an easy route through the back door to fame, fortune and fornication, it both expresses and debunks the hollow allure of a pseudoglamorous world where art

and commerce are shrewdly unfaithful bedfellows; a bit,

some would argue, like the the-atre world which Masson himself inhabits. But let's not read too much into things. For when it works

best, Stiff! is a glorious piece of

musical fluff that delights in

its own silliness. Masson nev-

excellent supporting cast is led hilariously by Jennifer Black as the object of George's affec-oons turned singing nun. Cherubs in drag guard the pearly gates while Gordon Dougall's rousing if somewhat unmemorable tunes are performed live by a cast obviously savouring every double entendre.

er lets up from the moment he

in the Spring Symphony. And

Pears said later that "Ben

that was to be it.

Devilish silly

Where Stiff! really falls down is in its pre-election insistance on addressing "the

Scottish question". One-dimen-sional parochialisms and cli-ched political comment will succeed only in shortening both Stiff!'s lifespan and its travelling power. Director Caroline Hall, however, is to be praised for somehow keeping order. And, with some brutal editing and a three-week run to get things up to speed, Masson should not only have the first big theatrical hit of the new Scottish Parliament on his hands, but will have proved once and for all that it's not just the devils of London's West End who have all the best tunes.

**NEIL COOPER** 

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THE Takacs Trio, formed by the ex-leader of the Takacs Quartet, give next Monday's Radio 3 lunchtime concert at the Wigmore Hall, and they have just released an enterprising and irresistible disc which shows off well the tangy char-

acter of their musicianship.

They pay homage to their great musical compatriot Ferenc Liszt in three rarely-heard and delicious transcriptions for piano trio; and they introduce us to his successor, a contemporary of Bartok and Kodály, whose qualities are only just beginning to be made known: Laszlo Lajtha. Lajtha. like Liszt, spent valuable musi-cal time in Paris: and the spectre of Rameau can be discerned through dense clouds of paprika in the fiery Trio Concertant, while the 1930

pays oblique homage to Bach. The sparky enthusiasm of the Takacs Trio certainly whets the appetite to hear more of Lajtha. More, too, over and over again, of Liszt's mischievous makeover of his own Hungarian Rhapsodies in which the Takacs Trio sound like an oversize oneman gypsy band, and of this intriguing and virtuoso meta-roorphosis of Tristia from La vallée d'Obermann.

HILARY FINCH

**OPERA** 

■ CENTURY'S GREATEST SINGERS IN PUCCINI Romophone 86001-2 (distributed by Harmonia Mundi)

ROMOPHONE'S arm stretches way back to the first dec-ades of the century for this collection of Puccini alistars. No one born after 1900 gets much of a look in. The finest tracks belong to Gigli, taken when he was in his mid-thirties and before some of the vocal manner-

isms which marred his later years had arrived. The Cavaradossi arias from Tosca have the warmth and virility of the great tenor in his prime. Equally impressive is Des Grieux being bowled over at his first sight of Manon Lescant. John McCormack's account of Rodolfo's Act I aria from Boheme is grace itself.

s grace itself.

Staying with Boheme, Lucrezia Bori skips easily betweeen Musetta and Mimi,
while Dame Nellie Melba tries a bil too hard to be skittish in the latter role. Claudia Muzio, a dramatic soprano if ever there was one, is shown at her best in Tosca and Suor Angelica. They were not afraid of Puccini's emotional outbursts in the 1920s, as Sheridan and Pertile prove in the final duet

from Manon Lescaut. There are no dud tracks, but a dud accompanying booklet.

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No texts, and no contexts for chosen extracts. Worse still, there are no singer biogra-phies: only connoisseurs and greybeards are likely to know who Margaret Sheridan and Edith Mason were. So lose a star for shoddy work.

JOHN HIGGINS

**ORCHESTRAL** 

■ MENDELSSOHN Italian and Reformation Vienna PO/Gardiner DG 459 156-2

THE stereotypical image of Mendelssohn is that of a prodi-giously fluent composer, whose speed and facility of writing inevitably raise suspicions of lack of depth. In fact, he was one of the most scrupulous, perfectionist composers of all time, and plagued by self-doubt. Even the Italian Symphony, whose sunny Mediterranean geniality radiates such confidence, was subject-

version (the year following the premiere) has been neither published nor recorded until now, even though it deserves 10 be regarded as the composer's final thoughts on the subject. An edicon by John Michael Cooper is about to be published in Wiesbaden, while John Eliot Gardiner offers both original and revised versions in this new account with the Vienna Philharmonic

The alterations, which affect all movements except the first, range from details of melody and scoring to (in the Saltarello) substantial structural modifications. The performances of both versions, as well as of the Reformation Symphony, are everything one would expect from this collaboration: percepove, dynamic and immaculately executed.

BARRY MILLINGTON

★ Worth hearing \* \* Worth considering

## **BOOKS**

## Inside the mind's cage

The victim relives a kidnapping for years

afterwards, says Brian Keenan

admit to having had some difficulties with this book: it took me some time to home in on what the author was pursuing. I became increasingly aware as I read that perhaps Jan Philipp Reemtsma was taking himself hostage again while washing his hands of the trauma of his captivity. Within the first dozen pages he writes: "There is no copyright on your own life, but it's easier to come to terms with every kind of misappropriation if there is a standing text somewhere you can point to."

Jan Philipp Reemtsma, a businessman and intellectual, was abducted outside his house in Hamburg in 1996. Held for ransom, he was chained by his ankles in a small cellar for 33 days. This book, translated by Carol Brown Janeway, is his account of his imprisonment, and as such seemed to me at times a troubled "standing text" on what he might describe as the paradox between intimacy and ennui, those conflicting emotions are the constant reality of the enclosed world of the hostage. This is not an easy subject to write about as I know from experience: Reemstma employs a very stylised construct that, for me anyway, obscured the organic development of the work.

Three voices sit in an uneasy harmony: the writer/author. Reemtsma as hostage and an ambiguous "he", Reemtsma from a third party perspective. The elaboration of these personae helps him, as he says, "to incorporate [his experience] into one's own biography, to make it accessible to words". I accept this, but think that it is done in preparation to the writ-

ten word. Jan Philipp Reemtsma is the founder/director of the Ham-

ean Acheson, the sub-

ject of James Chace's

fine Acheson: The

Secretary of State who Creat-

ed the American World (Si-

mon & Schuster, £25; ISBN 0

IN THE CELLAR By Jan Philipp Reemtsma

Secker & Warburg, £14.99 ISBN 0 436 20469 X



burg Institute for social research. His book is very well informed with Freudian and philosophical analysis of his experience and feelings, which I found intriguing. But some-times I found that the urgent and informed logic the author applies had the tendency to lead to word games and semantic confusion.

I can sympathise with this. The most difficult problem 1, like Reemtsma, had to confront in writing about such an experience was this dilemma: how does one write about a time when nothing happened, but everything happened, or what the author calls, a "falling out of the world"?
Maybe because I feli close to

Reemtsma and was unconsciously urging him through his existential confrontation that I felt the book took too long to "open up" the cellar. Also. Reemisma tells us that he and his wife had considered writing a joint book from the separate diaries they kept during his captivity. The project never came about, but I felt that some of this concept was subsumed unsuccessfully into the first half of the book. However, the last third of

found a role." It touched a very

sore spot only six years after

Suez and on the threshold of

de Gaulle's veto on our first

and already belated attempt to

join the Common Market — as

the book is where the real conflict begins and where the light begins to filter into the writer's cellar. The rigour of his emotionally scarred intellect demands much of the reader and reveals much about the er and reveals much about the act of writing. He states: "Writing marked a place outside feeling and in writing he controlled this place".

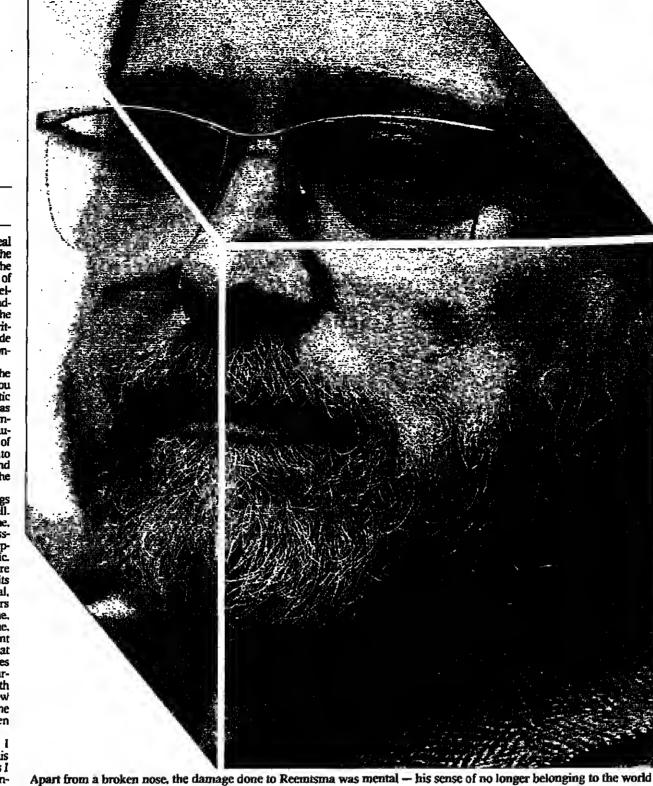
A few pages later he declares: "English allows you the state of the state

to be succinct, ironic, sarcastic and yet not so much cynical as German." Perhaps it is the cyn-ical distance that holds the au-thor back from "falling out of the world" once more and into his captivity where words and language are no more than the gibberish of Babel. But he does explore feelings

and states I know all too well. He analyses guilt, shame, fear, loneliness and helplessness, all with the clean perception of the intellectual cynic. He questions the central core of Western philosophy and its exposition of the individual, the self and the soul. He enters into debate with St Augustine.
Descartes, Montaigne, Hume.
Wittgenstein, Sartre and Kant
in a fast-paced dialectic that
resolves nothing but explores everything. I know this jour-ney. I have travelled with some of these men and a few others - if not with the same erudition as Reemtsma, then

But whatever difficulty I had with the first half of this book and whatever closeness I felt in the last third, the concluding pages disturbed me. The freed hostage looks on life from a point of seemingly irre-versible displacement. His world is absurd. His capacity to rejoice is irrevocably damaged. In such a world death is easy and desirable. Hate gnaws at him, but he states: "I gain no compensation from

with the same passion.



hatred. The time in the cellar

destroyed this symmetry too."
In the closing pages the author declares himself quintessentially dispossessed. He writes: "I think human Utopias are human fear in distorted form. The feelings I have been trying to describe here can be

summed up in almost no other way. Everything is as it was, except that it and 1 no longer fit together . . . I can't get a hold on things anymore . . . world and self are no longer in harmony." The closing line of the book concludes eerily: "In . the cellar feelings of no longer

being part of the world had their place. In the world they have none. The only place I was at home with these feelings was in the cellar."

Reemtsma's book is a poignant testimony and a harrowing attempt to come to terms with himself. But I don't want

to believe in the fatalism of his final words - even if at times I feel it breathing down my neck. Because I choose not to. My own captive experience taught me that choice is the crown of life and not to choose is to tumble blindly back into the cellar, with no reprieve.

Statesman present at the creation of the postwar world

It was also one of the last cries

of the 30-year-old history of

authoritative American world

leadership under the auspices

of the Democratic party.

Professor Chace provides a wise and admirably paced account of all the central and fairly familiar events of Acheson's life. His difficulty is that Acheson's memoirs were both comprehensive and sparkling. and indeed I was struck by the fact that when a footnote was interesting enough to make me flick through to the reference appendix the source was nearly always given as Present at the Creation. However, he surmounts this and has produced an admirable, essentially political

biography.
There is, thankfully, no attempt at psycho-sexual revelation, but there are occasional passages on lifestyle, done with perception, restraint and, as far as I can tell, accuracy. On British matters he tends to be slightly off-beam with the detail but — which is more important - very much on-beam with the major issues. He sees the contradiction in Britain's belief that it could improve its "special" relations with America by remaining detached from a European unity, to which US policy was dedicated, with a clarity which unfortunately successive British

**ROY JENKINS** 

Prime Ministers.

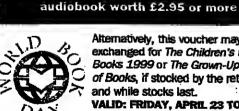
## Truman with the Japanese surrender, 1945. Acheson (in profile) stands on the right

684 80843 9), is best remem-bered in this country for his it was then called. But he should be still more remembered for his part in the 1962 aphorism at the West Marshall Plan, in the putting Point Military Academy in which he said: "Great Britain together of Nato and in the rallying of the Western world has lost an empire and not yet

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CHANGING TIMES

from the post-1945 slough of despond which led on, after 40 years of long and often tense waiting, to the great bloodless victory of 1989. Acheson was not an unduly modest man, but when he called the second (1969) volume of his memoirs Present at the Creation it was by no means an unfounded bit of bombast.

As Secretary of State from 1949 to 1953 (having been Under-Secretary in 1945-47) Acheson was, with General George Marshall, one of the twin pillars of the Truman administration. Although he was the epitome of an East Coast foreign policy establishment "gent", Acheson had a profound admiration for the courageous decisiveness of his largely self-educated boss who had been catapulted into the presidency from a background of Missouri machine politics by the death of Roosevelt. They got on very well, depile the fact that Acheson, superficially at least, was exactly the sort of "stuffed shirt" whom Truman instinctively disliked. Acheson's father was an

episcopal clergyman who became Bishop of Connecticut. He himself had been at Groton (America's answer to Eton), at Yale and at the Harvard Law School. He then did two years as law clerk to the great Supreme Court Justice Brandeis before entering a Washington law firm with the splendidly Wasp name of Covington and

A DEFINITIVE volume of

J.H. Prynne's poetry may he greeted by a broader public

with about as much excite-

ment as a complete iguana

breeder's manual. But for a

small, but steadily growing,

elect, its arrival is cause for cel-

ebration. His previous collec-

oon is out of print. And those

who did invest in a copy in the

1980s, have probably rendered

For Prynne is not a lyrical

poet whose work seeps gently

into the bloodstream. Austere-

ly cerebral, his poems are in-

formed by scrupulous cogita-

tion. A Cambridge academic.

he is unforgiving of intellectu-

it broken-spined by now.

Poems with

good posture

Burling. From this secure base he made his several political excursions into high appoint-ed (but never elected) Democratic office.

He was Roosevelt's Under Secretary of the Treasury in 1933, but lasted only eight months owing to a policy dispute. Then he had four and a half wartime years as one of the four Assistant Secretaries of the State Department, resigned in 1945 to go back to private life and practice, but was summoned back by Truman after a few weeks to be the sole Under Secretary in the Department. He had a more successful legal sabbati-cal from 1947 to 1949, and then reached his apotheosis when he replaced Marshall for the immensely testing last four

al slackness. Writing on any-

thing from "the matter of ther-

mal packing" to marzipan, he

teases out impossibly abstruse

reflections, opens new corri-

dors for thought to stream

down only to realise that the

endpoint is vanishing fast,

that perhaps it would have

been better never to have branched off in the first place.

drums that demand two types

of reading. They ask for coffee,

a dictionary and the concentra-

oon of an upright posture. But

they also need the dreamy

meditations of semi-recumben-

cy. The reader is likely to nod off mulling over enigmas. But

Prynne's poems are conun-

years of Truman's term. Acheson never really got on with his fellow Grotonian,

Roosevelt. This was partly because he fell that the President patronised him, although this was a very difficult thing to do with the astringent and self-confident Acheson. Maybe it was because Acheson, in spite of his blue chip education, was in English terms the equivalent of a "poor" Etonian - a Douglas Hurd or a Robert Armstrong - and not a magnate in a Cecil or Rothschild sense, which, mutatis mutandis, both Roosevelt and his near contemporary Averell Harriman

This did not prevent Acheson from being himself capable of great put-downs. In the

waking, head half-pillowed on crumpled pages, he finds an

untested stream of insights

swimming through the mind:

"a sweet cheat, newly torn", or

the product of "a level ceremo-

suggest that the first way into

this complex collection lies in a

simple appreciation of the

pleasure of sound. "Star-na-

ked your sherbet pinch does

spin"; "the ear spins / with

sharp cries, there / is shear at

the flowline": "timelike deliri-

um /cools at this crossing,

Every word is measured

with scientific precision. If the

ideas that these poems amass

are to be understood, the ety-

mologies and associations of a

sharply distinctive vocabulary

must be pondered. Prynne

uses the concepts of finance

and science as metaphors for

broader philosophical mean-

with your head in my arms."

For the new reader I would

ny of diffusion" perhaps.

him doing a spectacular one against the Maine Senator Muskie, trying hard to get Acheson's support for his presidential bid. Muskie responded fuzzily to an Acheson foreign policy tour d'horizon by ex-pressing agreement with his broad argument but adding the gloss that there was need for greater democratic partici-Acheson turned on him like a matador on a feeble bull: "Are you trying to say, Senator, that United States foreign policy should be determined in a series of little town meetings in the State of Maine? Don't ask them. Senator, tell them. When I believe you will do that, I will support you. Until then, not." It was devastating.

last year of his life I observed

**POEMS** By J. H. Prynne



Bloodaxe, £25 ISBN 1 85224 491 4

ings. Their specialist systems become the touchstones by which the essence of love, desire, linguistic purity, man's relationship to nature or to the eternal, can be tested.

The associations will never be straightforward. This RACHEL poet's skill is to trace the dif- CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

fuse ways in which the unedited mind assembles its ideas. Although his poems are not narrative in themselves, they require reading in a meticulously narrative manner.

But before this they require trust. "The whole thing it is, the difficult / matter: to shrink the confines / down", Prynne writes in his opening poem. Holistic theories are not on offer, nor is there any simple reductionist key to each poem.

Yet simple engagement in passages of pure lyricism, backed up by the taumess of lateral coherences, should convince the reader that they are in honourable hands. Prynne may be difficult and unfamiliar. But this is because he is a poet who questions the possibilities of his chosen form with as much art and rigour as T.S. Eliot ever did.



BIBLIOMANE

## A blast to the masses

■ EZRA POUND, most uncompromising of literary critics, wrote a series of substantial articles in 1917 about the British press and the tastes it played to. He was despairingly funny about the magazines of the masses, such as Answers. "The cover addresses me in these terms: 'It will be a red-letter day for you when you receive the corsets, because it will be the beginning of a new life. From the moment when you put them on a ceaseless stream of magnetism permeates the whole body from head to heel . . . You feel a different woman."

In his investigation of "English Kultur". Pound came up against The Spectator, and found it "an unfailing butt". Hearsay told him that it "'dictated the conservative policy whatever that phrase may mean". He quotes a few disjointed sentences, illustrating absence of thought. "The Government must act with a proper sense etc . . . "The PM made a v.g. speech o.t.w. at Queen's Hall last Sat., the 3d anniv. of G.B. entry i.t.c." This may look like sloppi-

ness. It isn't Pound's "etc" points out the omnipresence and futility of sentences pro-claiming that 'The Government must", and the tautology of calling for "a proper sense of . . . " - because the writer is saying no more than that it is proper to have a proper sense. But the great critical stroke comes with his use of those initial letters, which point out how readily the reader can supply the missing words "on the war" and "into the conflict".

He goes on to quote "Our aeroplanes played a.g.p. i.t.v.'. showing how words are deadened by their inevitability, just as they are today when a decision by Sinn Fein is said to be "a blow to the p.p.", or we are told of the Serbs "rounding up i.m.w. and c'. War and diplomacy rely on verbal placebos — talk of "ground troops" as though there were another kind — but it is instructive to see how much writing can be abbreviated to Pound's "etc". "All one can pray for." he concluded, "is more honesty and less camouflage." His articles deserve to be reprinted.

■ THE Yale Younger Poets series has been going for 80 years, and the YYP Anthology (£25/ £10.50), edited and introduced by George Bradley, is chunky and uneven. It is a reminder of how little American poetry is known in Britain. The most established names are often strangers here. The latest Younger Poet is Craig Arnold, whose Shells

(£12.50/ £7.50) is about masculinity, food and the difficulties of tenderness. There are good, rather weird. stories here about obsessive behaviour. Sexual banter between friends is suddenly thrown down like a gauntlet; a craving for spicy food turns pathological. Arnold describes the hard, helmeted surface that men like to show. and how they fear humiliation. Like the collector of blades who thought his interest was "purely amateur", he cuts to

■ DEIGHTON, BELL in Cambridge recently catalogued a thousand books of 20th-century poetry from the library of the poet David Posner, greatly underpricing many rare copies. The books were sold almost immediately for what must have been tens of thousands of pounds less than their value - mostly to dealers, who took them to the San Francisco bookfair. Deighton, Bell itself, along with Heffers, has now been bought by Blackwells.

JIM McCUE

#### **IN** metro ON SATURDAY

A BIG GIRL NOW: Sophie Parkin talks about her second novel, Take Me Home ALSO: Back from the dead John Keats tells metro how

Sava battle secret

the wild

MALLINE 1.34.2 By John Co



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CRASS TULIP FEW By Deborah M SENIO AS A CON

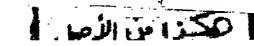


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## **BOOKS**

## The wild border between fable and fiction

Andrew Greig's novel, When They Lay Bare, draws

the reader into a powerful tale of love and vengeance

uthors are not known for piping up on the subject of sin, but there's one evil most all of them will comfortably agree upon: plagiarism. The lines are clearly drawn: this is mine, that is yours, keep out.

Shell 5

At a second glance, however, it's not quite as easy as all that. School teachers constantly come up against the problem of admitting that, er, well, no. Shakespeare didn't make up those stories, he nicked them from someone else. A few years ago an Australian scholar levelled an accusation of plagiarism at Graham Swift, claiming that his Booker Prize-winning novel Last Orders had a structure and story uncomfortably close to William Faulkner's As I Lay Dying: however, months earlier, The Times's reviewer, Claire Messud, noted not plagiarism but an homage to the late American writer. In the face of this confusion, it is

worth reminding ourselves that

there are some stories which seem to spring — eternally, and eternally renewed — from a kind of storybank kept safe through generations of human minds. This is not quite the same as making the argument, as some do, that there are only seven stories in all the world; just that there are narratives that have drawn and will draw people from all cultures in all times. Stories of love and betrayal; of familial antagonisms; of supernatural doings. It was recently pointed out to me that the presumably modern obsession with X-Files alien abductions is no more than an updating of the old legends, with their fairy kings and

away with them. And so to Andrew Greig, whose debut novel, When They Lay Bare, is a skilful riff on an ancient ballad. The Twa Corbies is a border ballad. its origins in the "debatable lands" between Scotland and England where, in the 15th and 16th centu-

queens whisking hapless mortals

ries, only a natural law of honour and retribution existed between families and clans. An unidentified narrator overhears two ravens, or corbies, planning the feast they will make on the body of a slain knight whose lady — for unknown reasons

- has taken another lover. It is a spare and haunting tale: never mentioned are the actual causes of the knight's death, or the source of the enmity that lay behind his killing. It is through this ancient skeleton's whitening ribs that Greig, in the best and oldest tradition of sto-

ryspinning, has threaded his tale.
Greig brings clannish rivalry into the modern day. David Elliot is set to inherit the estate of his father, Sir Simon Elliot; or what's left of it. Half was lost when Sir Simon and David's mother divorced, in large part due to an affair the elder Elliot had with a woman who was a Lauder: the two families at odds for generations. Jinny Lauder died mysterious circumstances: now



her daughter - perhaps Simon's child but perhaps not - arrives, apparently from nowhere, on the estate bearing her mother's only treasure a collection of plates that tell in faded shards the story of The Twa Corbies. During the course of the novel one of the plates is explosively smashed: it would be fair to say that the arrival of Marnie Lauder

has a similar effect on the Elliots. When They Lay Bare respects and transforms the tradition it springs from. It is now a commonplace to say that the most exciting new writers in Britain come from north of the border — from Alas-dair Gray to Irvine Welsh to Alison Kennedy to Alex Benzie — if further proof were needed. Greig provides it. He is adventurous and precise with his language, moving with ease between standard English and dialect Scots. A skill like this might, however, be seen as little more than a sleight of hand performed with vowels and consonants; what goes deeper is the author's ability to de-lineate the landscape of emotion and the emotion in the landscape with enviable grace. He is particularly good at the latter, raising before the reader's eyes the bleakly savage landscape that still exists— remarkably—only a few hundred miles from the mild and sleepy south: a place of trees twisted by wind, of sharp-eyed hawks, of treacherous burns. As to the former, it would be hard to say that

his writing is clear where the feelings of his characters are concerned: better that he is adept at

cooveying their confusion. Modern men and women, they are trapped in a story that is more their inheritance that any acre or heirloom. Few writers, these days, have the courage to grapple with Fate: Greig

meets it head on.

The old ballads draw in the listener with their sparseness and their story. When They Lay Bore does the same, for this is a thriller and no mistaking it, though one as black and deep as a border tarn. Marnie Lauder unsettles the already uneasy lives of the Elliots and those around them; in this haunted story it is hardly surprising to find Sim Ellion's factor, Tat, with a gift for carving goblin netsuke, the ruby eyes of his tiny beasts gazing out with the silent wisdom of blood. Who Marnie really is, her mother's real fate: that is for the reader to discover, as Greig's tale sings through this book. "O'er his white banes when they are bare/ The winds shall blow for evermair/ The winds shall blow for evermair . . .

WHEN THEY LAY BARE By Andrew Greig Faber, £16.99 ISBN 0 571 19687 X



## On the love

By A. Manette Ansay Allison & Busby Ltd, £7.99 ISBN 0 749 00 403 7

SAM is a fallen angel in a fiercely Catholic family. Brought up by the scruff of his neck, his father practised the kind of rough love that gives a sore heart and a sore head. A. Manette Ansay begins her tale from the Midwest with the news of Sam's disappearance. She pieces together his life through the eyes of his sibling Abigail. Sister wooed the critics when it came out in America earlier this year. With her insight into the anatomy of persecution, she can only repeat the exercise over here.

## Savage battle of a secret war

remember very clearly sit-ting in the Malay jungle as a newly commissioned officer nearly 30 years ago, reading with mounting dismay Noel Barber's Sinister Twilight (still the best book on the fall of Singapore), wondering how on earth the Japanese seemed to arrive so unexpect-edly - and what, indeed, I was doing there 30 years on. John Colvin's Nomonhan — a battle I had never beard of then - explains all.

By 1905, at the end of the Russo-Japanese War, Japan had gone from the closed socierial power with a growing appetite for foreign raw materials - and in fewer than 40 years. Manchuria continued to be a cause of friction, however, and during the late 1920s and 1930s some in the Japanese general staff became convinced that war with Soviet Russia and her satellite state Outer Mongolia was necessary. This, the so-called "Strike North" policy, was MALLINSON

NOMONHAN By John Colvin Quartet Books, £18 ISBN 0 7043 7112 X



opposed by the Japanese navy, principally, and those in the general staff who favoured expansion south into Indo-China. The (Japanese) Kwantung army, occupying Manchuria acted increasingly independently of Tokyo and drove "Strike North" strongly. In 1939 the disputed Khalkin Gol, a 60 mile buffer along the Halha river, demarcating the border between Mongolia and Manchuria, became the scene of fierce fighting between the technologically superior Soviet army (under Zhukov) and the fanatically brave Japanese.

It is not just the casualty fig-

ures at Nomonhan, as the prin-

cipal battle is usually called. that chill (anything from 25,000 to 50,000 Japanese dead); it is the nature of the fighting — desperate, confused, visceral: "Yamagata's Group 2 horribly ambushed singing military ditties on the march, and slaughtered 80 of them at point-blank range over open sights, taking two prisoners." All fighting is desperate, confused and visceral, but at Nomanhan it was "personal" too - the race factor. John Colvin is exceptionally well qualified to write of the battle, its origins and consequences — the only book in

English to consider all three



A Mongolian pilot and a Russian officer before the battle of Nomonhan, 1939. Picture: the Mongolian Embassy

fully. He was born in Tokyo, served in the Royal Navy dur-ing the Second World War and then joined the diplomatic service, becoming High Com-missioner in Kuala Lumpur, Consul General in Hanoi and Ambassador to Mongolia. He writes economically, his style a mixture of Foreign Office tel-

egrams and naval signal. The reader must pay attention. But the pearls are there: "In the propaganda section of the HQ, the poet Konstantin Simonov found the earth floor littered with photographs taken from Japanese corpses . . . Mount Fuji, snaps of parents, wives, children, cherry blos-

som, all that heartbreak in the huge, military machine with its grand, pitiless movement of events, trampled by the feet of

white strangers." After Nomonhan the Japanese had no expansion alternative but to strike south (and Pearl Harbor), and Colvin speculates convincingly on the consequences for the war in Europe had Nomonhan been a victory for them - the only comforting bit of an otherwise gruesome story.

Allan Mallinson is a serving Army colonel. His novel, A Close Run Thing, is published by Bantam, £15.99.

## run from

#### In the dock

CORNER KINGDOM By John Campbell Lagan Press, £5.99 ISBN 1 87368765 6

THE debut novel by John Campbell, a Belfast poet, takes us to the dockyard where he worked from school leaving age until 1985. Descriptions of working class Belfast in the Fifties includes the detail to be expected of a man who has spent over 30 years on the job. Campbell shadows a young boy from his first day at work. But what could be a sicklysweet mouthful of nostalgia where flat-capped workers sweat blood, read The Mirror and drink warm ale - has a ferocious aftertaste.

#### Easy does it

DOÑA PERFECTA By Benito Pérez Galdós Phoenix House, £16.99 ISBN 1 861591 31

THIS fresh translation, by A. R. Tulloch, of a book by the 19th-century writer Benito Perez Galdós explores the effect the social changes of 19th-century Spain had on the counreligious orthodoxy. Pene Ray leaves Madrid for the rural nowheresville of Orbajosa where he means to claim an inheritance. But his aunt. Doña Perfecta, treads on her nephew's plans. Although Pérez Galdos is astute in his portrayal of relatives who can't quite relate. Doña Perfecta never quite recovers from its drowsy beginning.

ALEX O'CONNELL

## Ferocious flower fetish

much in evidence this year. Perhaps as we recoil from the greed of the previous decade, the idea of how another nation once attracted disaster by its speculation on the tulip bulb offers the consolations of history. In the case of Deborah Mog-gach's Tulip Fever it also inspires a sumptuous and enthralling novel about art, love, illusion and money.

Sophia is the young and beautiful wife of an Amsterdam merchant, Cornelis. A collector of beautiful things in a city famed for its wealth and propriety, Cornelis adores her. Sophia, however, is cold and childless; her closest relationship is with her maid, Maria. Unlike her mistress, Maria is all too well acquainted with the lineaments of love, enjoying the embraces of the local fishmonger, Willem. Then the adoring Cornelis hires a painter, Jan van Loos, to immortalise his marriage on canvas.

Inevitably, Jan and Sophia fall in love; but it is Maria, not Sophia, who becomes preg-nant. Pretending to be with child herself, the mistress can keep her maid - and reject her husband, whose embraces make her feel "like an upturned beetle pressed down by a shoe". Soon, another plot begins to form, born of desperation and opportunism. Vast fortunes can be made by speculating on a single tulip bulb — and it is money, as well as cunning, which will set Sophia

and Jan free. Moggach writes marvellously about the world of the senses. Sex. food, cloth and Amsterdam in the 1630s are all described with a passionate precision, a delight in the sensual that is reminiscent of Michèle Roberts. Her small cass of characters are thor-

CRAIG

TULIP FEVER By Deborah Moggach Heinemann, £14.99 ISBN 0 434 00779 X



oughly known and their contortions in the cage of mate-rialism are evoked with compassion, wit and humour. The shimmering, watery nature of Holland itself is linked so skilfully to every metaphor in the novel that its moral intelligence could easily be over-looked. At its heart, Tulip Fever is about the world of the spirit and its conflict with the world of the flesh. As each character executes his or her move in the intricate tragicomedy that develops, it is this spiritual dimension which deepens the novel and provides the denouement of a

Where the novel is less satisfactory is in the author's mistrust of the reader's intelligence. Moggach has not, so far, been given her due as a novelist - perhaps because of her unfashionable fidelity to narrative - and it could be this which produces a sense of strain, of trying to be at once literary and middlebrow. She is good enough to let her work speak for itself, but again and again the skeleton of research grins through. As a reader, you thoroughly resent this. We



Passion blossoming from a bloom. Picture: Bridgeman

come to believe in Jan's existence - until his dates are given. We believe in his paintings, until we find, interleaved in the novel, 16 colour reproductions of famous Dutch Old Masters. It's babyish enough to have illustrations, but these actually weaken the text. The fact that they are, in themselves, masterpieces does nothing for the imaginary world the author

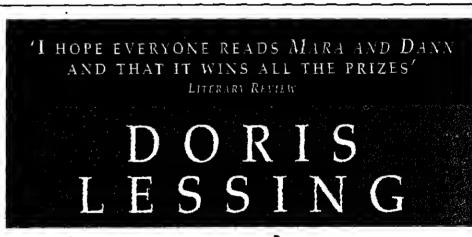
has conjured up out of words. Anyone who loves painting (and indeed, anyone who loves gardening) will relish this book, which is the best of its kind since Barry Unsworth's Stone Virgin. But for Deborah Moggach to achieve the heights one senses she is capable of, she needs - like her own painter - to think less about the vices exemplified by tulip fever.

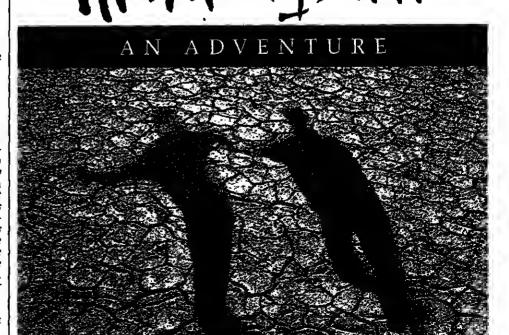


**■ GARRISON KEILLOR** has a new book coming from Faber. It is the "biography" of Jimmy "Big Boy Valente, a professional wrestler who became Governor of Minnesota. Anything to do with Jesse Ventura, the ex-wrestler who is, in fact, Governor of Minnesota? One wooders what the burly Ventura will think. Keillor claims it's a "genial novel, oot mean at all" — but he's also called the Governor "this great big honking bullet headed shovel-faced mutha who talks in a steroid growl and doesn't stop." There's a headlock for you.

■ THE Royal Society of Literature was hoping to lounch o new annual of good writing by its Fellows, edited by John Gross and Hilary Mantel, but the society has given up. In its current bulletin, the chairman Michael Holroyd thanks Gross for "having tested the idea to its destruction. The trouble is that the Fellows are nearly oll professional writers. and were reluctant to write for less than their usual fees.

THE TLS reports that Michael Pastore found that his child-care book. Dynamite Counsellors Don't Explode!, was at number 1.106,125 on the Amazon.com bestseller lists. Soon afterwards, he heard he had gone up by 400,000 places by selling 12 more copies.





AN ECOLOGICAL WARNING, A CAUTIONARY FABLE AND A QUEST FOR SURVIVAL AND TRUTH

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nce it was a ques-tion of how to convince Oxbridge colleges that they wanted you as a student Increasingly, however, Oxford and Cambridge have had to go on the offensive to convince students that they might want to choose one of these two univer-

So the question "What are the ancient universities looking for?" has evolved to include "And what do they offer that students might be seeking?" And there is the added complication of how best to choose your college if it seems as if both parties can do business. First then, what are Oxford

and Cambridge after? It helps to look good on paper, of course, but perfection is not a prerequisite. Established excellence in one area may be preferred against consummate achievement across the board, and this is where the school reference plays a crucial part. If a student does not have a string of starred As at GCSE, but is a genius in his or her chosen field, then their school has an obligation to say so.

Much is read into that "ex-

tra certain something" expect-ed of Oxbridge candidates. All this really means is an appetite to learn, an ability to be taught and a capacity to think beyond the bounds of A level towards some larger academic

In this context it is essendal that candidates use the interview to demonstrate that they are capable of handling the demands of the tutorial system. Like a tutorial, the interview is less about getting answers right or wrong than it is about keeping the intellectual ball rolling and giving the impression that you would enjoy keeping it rolling for a further three years.

Of course the interview procedure cuts both ways. If dons play the encounter as an exercise in sadomasochism, then students are entitled to have second thoughts about whether or not they might be happier elsewhere.

This leads us to our second point of inquiry: what do Cambridge and Oxford deliver? The transformation of the

student population from the education into canny consumers means that the many advantages of the Oxbridge system are now weighed against a variety of other con-siderations — from the limited vocational content of most courses to the abject lack of nightlife in either city. Many view Oxbridge merely as a social anachronism that they can live without.

After years of access schemes and target-schools activity, the ancient universi-

BOOK OFFER

#### **Hannah Betts** debunks the myth of Oxbridge as a home for the privileged

ties are somewhat surprised to find that they continue to be seen as some sort of Brides-

head Revisited throwback. And indeed, if social anxieties are the only thing holding a student back from applying, he or she should certainly think again: the only anachronism at work here is the myth

anachronism itself. Nor is it impossible to get in, whatever the universities' reputadon for being ultra-selec-tive. The average is three applicanis per place, white at Bris-tol, Sheffield or Manchester universities it is more likely to

What Oxbridge offers can be summarised in simple materi-al terms. It has world-class libraries: excellence in academic teaching; a tutorial system that can be tailored to meet individual needs and interests; an atmosphere in which scholarship is valued at all levels; and a respect for personal intellectual development sometimes missing at larger institutions.

The amount of money circulating through these two universides actually works to the advantage, rather than to the detriment, of poorer students hardship, book and travel grants augment the traditional stipend offered by the college scholarship. Even the lack of after-hours entertainment is in some way compensated for

The Great Court of Trinity

College, Cambridge

THE

THE TIMES

university

which their mind works? Take the opportunity to visby the vast number of celebriit, but bear in mind that the open days tend to be during the vacation and colleges al-ways feel rather odd with nobody in them.

graduate intake.

Be prepared to think laterally - a college's reputation for good food may seem like an irrelevance, but it produces a real community focus, and with a minimum of three years ahead, it may ultimately become rather more important. Similarly, a college's consideration, but it may have a big impact on living costs, rent rises and subsequent scholarships.
Prince William is said to be

community of 350 or the pros-

pect of a less cohesive peer

worse than to read some of the

work written by the individual

who will teach them. This Is,

after all, the person who will

be in charge of their education

for the next three years - what

better insight into the way in

group of twice that size.

considering his choice at Oxbridge, with Lincoln College. Oxford, the current seat of Eric Anderson, the Prince of Wales's friend and former teacher, rumoured to be a strong favourite. This may present a final consideracion for Prince William's many young admirers.



Graduating from Oxford: like Cambridge, a great place for forming networks

#### IN THE GUIDE TOMORROW The 1999 edition of the original league table: will Cambridge still be top?

Plus, which are the popular subjects, and do they lead to jobs?



One of Magdalen college's two new Gothic-style student accommodation blocks

## Dealing with the highs and lows

How to get value from reading the Norrington and Tompkins tables

2 (1) Merton

3 (5) Wadham

4 (2) St John's ..

5 (19) Balliol ...

6 (3) University...

7 (13) Queen's.

8 (12) St Ed Hall.

9 (6) Keble .....

11 (11) Magdalen...

12 (20) Christ Ch ....

13 (14) L M Hall...

17 (16) Lincoln .....

18 (15) Exeter.....

22 (21) St Anne's....

24 (7) Corpus C...

25 (8) Trinity ....

3 (2) Christ's.

4 (8) Caius...

5 (7) Emmanuel ..

7 (6) Trinity Hall...

9 (5) Pembroke ...

10 (14) King's ....

6 (11) Clare ....

16 (10) Oriel ..

10 (27) Worcester ..... 80.8

14 (9) New College ... 79.3 15 (24) Mansfield ..... 79.2

19 (18) Brasenose ....78.9

20 (29) St Peter's ..... 78.1

21 (23) Pembroke ..... 78.1

23 (17) Hertford ...... 77.2

26 (24) St Hilda's ..... 76.9

27 (22) St Hugh's.....76.4

28 (26) St Cat's....... 75.2

29 (25) Somerville .... 73.3

30 (30) Harris Man....70.5

.. 63.73

.83.5

.83.3

ambridge and Oxford have a love-hate relationship with the ta-bles that establish their academic rankings, Hannah

Betts writes. On the one hand, the attribution of points for graduates' degree results is dismissed as only a crude index of academic success. At the same time. whenever the latest rankings are published. High Table gossip is about little else.

Certainly there is an argu ment for viewing these tables with some cynicism. They are compiled on the basis that a first is worth five points, a 2t four, a 22 three and a thirdclass degree one point. This means that poorer performance by a relatively small oumber of undergraduates can have a dramatic effect on

a particular year's figures.

If applicants allow the tables to influence their choice of college, they should take into account more than one

The latest Norrington Table of Oxford colleges should be viewed in this light. While some colleges achieve a fairly stable performance, others show a degree of flux. Balliol is back on form after plummeting to 19th place last year, from its previous position of secood. Christ Church similarly restores its fortunes.

Worcester has risen impressively from near the bottom of the list to make the top ten. St Peter's, one of the poorer colleges, improves its ranking, al-beit less dramatically, to make the top 20.

Others fare less well. Corpus Christi plummets from seventh to twenty-fourth place and Trinity drops from eighth to twenty-fifth. Cambridge's

Table, compiled by Peter Tompkins of Price Waterhouse, reveals far less erration results. Trinity, Queens' and Christ's retain their position as the top three colleges, with merely a slight reshuffling. In the main, performance is similarly static.

Sidney Sussex's performping from fourth to seventeenth place. Founded in 1596. Sidney Sussex is the newest of the older colleges, but lacks the wealth of many of its

This leads to the final caveat about the league tables. Old-er, richer colleges tend to do well, while newer, poorer ones typically fare badly — with women's colleges traditionally low down in, if not bottom of the pile. New Hall - one of Cam-

11 (12) Downing .... 61.22 12 (13) Fitzwilliam ... 60.83 13 (15) Churchil .... 60.26 14 (9) St Cath's .... 15 (16) Selwyn... 16 (20) Jesus..... 17 (4) S Sussex.. 18 (23) Corpus C.. 19 (21) Robinson .... 58.01 20 (18) Newnham ... 57.93 21 (22) Girton ...... 57.35 22 (17) Magdalene .. 57.17 23 (19) Peterhouse..57.14 24 (24) New Hall......55.6

8 (10) St John's ..... 62.54

bridge's two women's colleges - languishes at the bottom of its list for the second year running, while Newnham - the other - comes in at twentieth

St Anne's, Oxford's one remaining women's college, is in twenty-second place. Somerville went co-educational in 1994 in a move interpreted by many as an attempt to improve its academic results. However, it continues to perform badly at twenty-ninth.

#### Guidelines are available to students looking for off-campus accommodation, says Lucien Watkins

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CHANGING TIMES

## When finding digs becomes a nightmare

commodation standards are as big a worry as the ability to cope with the academic work. Today's students are more fortunate than their predecessors as more universides can now offer the security and comfort of in-hall accommodation. Sui those who do not have this opdon, such as my son Gavin, will depend on private accommodation.

After a day of accommodation-hunting last September. Gavin found a room in an old property occupied by several students. When he moved in he realised immediately that he had made a mistake. With his ground-floor room next to the kitchen, he had difficulty

hen a student is sleeping and was constantly leaving home for being disturbed and the first time. rotting food littered the kitch-en. Peeting waltpaper glistened with damp and security was poor: one night his treas-ured mountain bike was sto-len. So where did Gavin go wrong? Ruth Harper, Salford University's Student Union accommodation officer, says: We try to produce checklists

for room-seekers."
When it comes to advertising on campus, many universities allow only those properties that have been inspected and for which up-to-date eas and electrical appliance certificates can be produced. Environmental health officers suggest that there should be no more than six people sharing a single bathroom, toilet and



Senay Boztas, a postgraduate media student at Cardiff, moves into the flat she will share

kitchen, and emphasise the importance of checking that there is an adequate means of escape in case of fire. Accommodation offices offer guidelines for those who have

found rooms:

 Always have a copy of the inventory; if the landlord does not provide one, do it yourself. Detail problems to the landlord or agency in writing. The landlord has an obligation to carry out repairs.

Try to get agreements checked out before signing and ask current tenants whether they are happy.

When things do go wrong.

go to the student union. If it is a legal matter, the union may

fund a meeting with a solicitor. Many students are unsure about the best time to start hunting for a room. Susan Goddard, accommodation officer at Reading University, admits that students often panic and are looking now in the spring rather than later in the year. "But," she says, "no student is left to sleep rough if they contact us."

Other accommodation offices say that few, if any, students are left without a permanent roof over their head at the start of term. But in the event of someone not finding accommo-dation, Reading and other universities have strategies in place. Dr Goddard organises a house-hunting day in September during which the stu-dent union, the borough council housing advice service, envi-ronmental health and thirdyear students offer invaluable assistance.

Our son's episode ended on positive note. Although he lost his deposit, he found alternative accommodation quickly with a landlord on the premises. The landlord's wife even baked my son cakes, making him feel right at home.

#### THE COURSE, the city and the university's reputation will always be the main factors in choosing where

to study, but tight budgets mean accommodation costs are becoming an increasingly important consideration. For students in London, the NUS says, the average weekly rent outside hall is now £87 a week. while similar accommodation in the North and the Midlands is less than £35 a week.

In crude terms, where you go to study and the resultant living costs could determine how many years you keep your overdraft after finishing university. It will also make a big difference to a student's level of solvency and therefore his or her

## It pays to be closer to home

performance. Research by the London University accommodation service shows a link between housing and academic success.

On average, students are paying about 60 per cent of their weekly income on rent forcing more and more of them to think twice before moving away from home to study. At Coventry University, the proportion of students from the immediate region has grown from 42 per cent to 54 per cent in seven years. Many students like to have their

own accommodation in the second and third years. Few universities can guarantee residential places bevond the first year.

The NUS claims that, as more colleges contract out their halls of residence to management companies, rents are starting to rise at twice the rate of inflation. The average institutionally provided accommodation costs £48 a week.

Rents are not the only costs for students. In the toughest housing markets, landlords demand retainers for the summer months and higher deposits. The average deposil in London is more than £250.

To cover their living costs, 40 per cent of full-time students have to work at part-time jobs. This works to the advantage of some institutions. Hull University — where pri-vate-sector rents are £26 to £30 a week and a surplus of accommoda-tion means that rents are actually falling - is becoming more popular. Jim Dumsday, the university spokesman, says: "With debt and

overdrafts becoming more and more of an issue, the cost of accommodation is moving up in the stu-

	Av. reats	Av. deposi		
	£	£		
Private landiord	_	-		
Scotland	44	133		
Wales	38	75		
North West	35	150		
North East	34	93		
East Anglia	51	216		
East Midlands	34	141		
West Midlands				
	33	<u>1</u> 47		
South West	46	183		
South East	48	225		
London	87	251		
	01	201		

Source: NUS Accommodation Costs Survey **HUGH THOMPSON** 

APRIL DA



Here, exclusive to The Times, are the finishers in the 1999 Flora London Marathon. The information is provided by EDS, official suppliers of com-puters to the race, and today includes all those who ran between 4hr 4min 4sec and 4hr 52min 31sec. Names and times of other finishers will be published later this week.

4:06:13: J Brucker 4:06:13; S Harner 4:06:13; K 5klanner 4:06:13; C Gunn 4:06:14; P Champenols 4:06:14; P Curds 4:06:14; G Mault 4:06:15; T Wilmshurst 4:06:15; I Norris 4:06:15; I Lewis 4:06:15; I Norris 4:06:15; S A Stickland 4:06:15; I Norris 4:06:15; S A Stickland 4:06:16; K Perry 4:06:16; C Kertle 4:06:16; M Crane 4:00:16; C Sonwell 4:06:16; M Crane 4:00:16; C Sonwell 4:06:16; M Crane 4:00:16; S Griss 4:06:17; H knights 4:06:17; M Thompson 4:06:18; R Woodrup 4:06:18; B Dewhurst 4:06:18; D Williams 4:06:19; L Purkiss 4:06:19; P Cappellini 4:06:20; Z Jones 4:06:20; P Cappellini 4:06:21; C Volanti 4:06:21; G Salmon 4:06:21; C Volanti 4:06:21; G Salmon 4:06:21; F Lennard 4:06:22; M McQuade 4:06:22; M Thompson 4:06:22; M McQuade 4:06:23; Tabbot 4:06:23; G Cross 4:06:23; Tabbot 4:06:24; G Heneage 4:06:23; S Yates 4:06:24; G Heneage 4:06:25; A Kuller 4:06:25; S Waite 4:06:25; A Rogies 4:06:26; D Gunhi 4:06:28; M Radiey 4:06:29; F Greenwood 4:06:28; M Radiey 4:06:29; J Colding 4:06:30; M Lowson 4:06:31; B Remy 4:06:31; S Smilh 4:06:31; B Remy 4:06:31; S Smilh 4:06:31; B Remy 4:06:31; S Smilh 4:06:31; M Voll 4:06:31; M Calwan 4:06:32; A Lewis 4:06:33; M Calway 4:06:34; E Douglas 4:06:33; M Calway 4:06:34; E Douglas 4:06:34; P Brockway 4:06:34; Lauricks 4:06:34; M Calway 4:06:34; E Douglas 4:06:34; P Brockway 4:06:34; Lauricks 4:06:34; M Calway 4:06:34; E Douglas 4:06:34; P Brockway 4:06:35; I Hows Jases 4:04:38: A Monon 4:04:38: R Sanbridge 4:04:38: G Lincoln 4:49:39: M Moore 4:04:49: S Miller 4:49:39: G Dorsner 4:04:40: M Role 4:04:40: W Wienholts 4:49:40: B Schaaf 4:04:40: G Wil-liams 4:04:41: M Niven 4:04:41: M Fredman 4:04:42: J Connolly 4:49:42: S Pilkington 4:04:43: E Majoran 4:04:43: J Cook 4:04:43: E Majoran 4:04:43: P Brennan 4:49:43: M Bancroft 4:04:43: A Hur-rer 4:04:43: L Mowice 4:04:44: J Waker 4:04:44: L Owen 4:04:44: J Yanwood 4:04:45: A Rawson 4:04:45: D Rawson 4:04:45: K Tane 4:04:45.

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Hasker 4:04:46; K Gronet 4:04:49; D
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Mirray 4:04:50; T Howen 4:04:51; C Delic 4:04:51; F Leboeut 4:04:51; C Delic 4:04:51; R Degroot 4:04:51; S
Doran 4:04:51; C Grunan 4:04:52; K
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Gnnanson 4:04:53; M Clarke
4:44:53; A Tipples 4:04:53; J Hopkits 4:04:53; C Cameron 4:04:53; C
Grennan 4:04:56; H Shahein
4:04:56; A Malcolm 4:04:56; M
Gani 4:04:57; D Gammage
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Mckellar 4:05:15; S Woodward
4:05:14; C Wood 4:05:16; M MccaLiby 4:05:17; P Jones 4:05:17; N

12601-50:17; P Jones 4:05:17; N 12901-- C Taylor 4:06:34: E Doug-las 4:06:35: A Borri 4:06:35: J How-ell 4:06:35: M Hickman 4:06:36: D Ford 4:06:36: D Lu0brook 4:06:36: K Thompson 4:06:37; N West 12901—C. 129107 4:30:34: E. E-Duglas 4:06:35: A Borri 4:06:36: D Ford 4:06:36: D Lu0brook 4:06:36: D Ford 4:06:37: S Bailors 4:06:37: C Baidrey 4:06:37: M Wonon 4:06:37: D Larsen-smith 4:06:38: C Moores 4:06:39: S Marbleson 4:06:38: C Moores 4:06:39: J Warrillow 4:06:38: C Moores 4:06:39: J Warrillow 4:06:39: M Mooney 4:06:39: S Marbleson 4:06:39: J Warrillow 4:06:39: E Bushby 4:06:40: S Bruce 4:06:40: P Greene 4:06:40: S Bruce 4:06:41: J Tyrrell 4:06:41: J Key 4:06:42: W Sinclair 4:06:42: S Hactin 4:06:41: J Tyrrell 4:06:41: J Key 4:06:42: W Sinclair 4:06:42: S Hactin 4:06:41: J Key 4:06:42: W Sinclair 4:06:42: S Hactin 4:06:44: C Shearman 4:06:44: K Steed 4:06:45: R Egion 4:06:46: T Evans 4:06:46: C Curcher 4:06:47: L Stimpson 4:06:48: S Kolkey 4:06:49: C Mathlin 4:06:48: S Kolkey 4:06:49: C Mathlin 4:06:49: W Audrain 4:06:50: J Boyle 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: S R Greenough 4:06:50: S M Moose 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: S R Stelling 4:06:50: S M Moose 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: S M Moose 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: J Moorby 4:06:50: S R Stelling 4:06:50: S M Moose 4:06:50: S R Stelling 4:06:50: S M Moose 4:06:50: D Morby 4:06:50: D Temple 4:06:50: D Milliams 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: J Heywood 4:06:50: M Moose 4:06:50: D Morby 4:06:50: D Temple 4:06:50: J Brans 4:06:50: J Heywood 4:06:50: D Temple 4:06:50

405:18: A Watson 4:05:15; R Tro00
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12601-5 Revill 4:05:16: M Mccachy 4:05:17: P Jones 4:05:17: N
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1:05:21: S Nelson 4:05:21: G
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1:05:27: E Revnel 4:05:27: S Lovegrove 4:05:28: N Naughlon
1:05:29: T Yil-huhuala 4:05:29: D
Crew 4:05:30: J Gardiner 4:05:30: N
Gardiner 4:05:30: N Gauni
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Varnison 4:05:31: N Eakins 4:05:30: N
Crew 4:05:30: J Gardiner 4:05:32: M M
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Varnison 4:05:32: M M
Varnison 4:05:32: M
Varnison 4:05:33: M
Varnison 4:05:34: M
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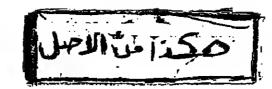
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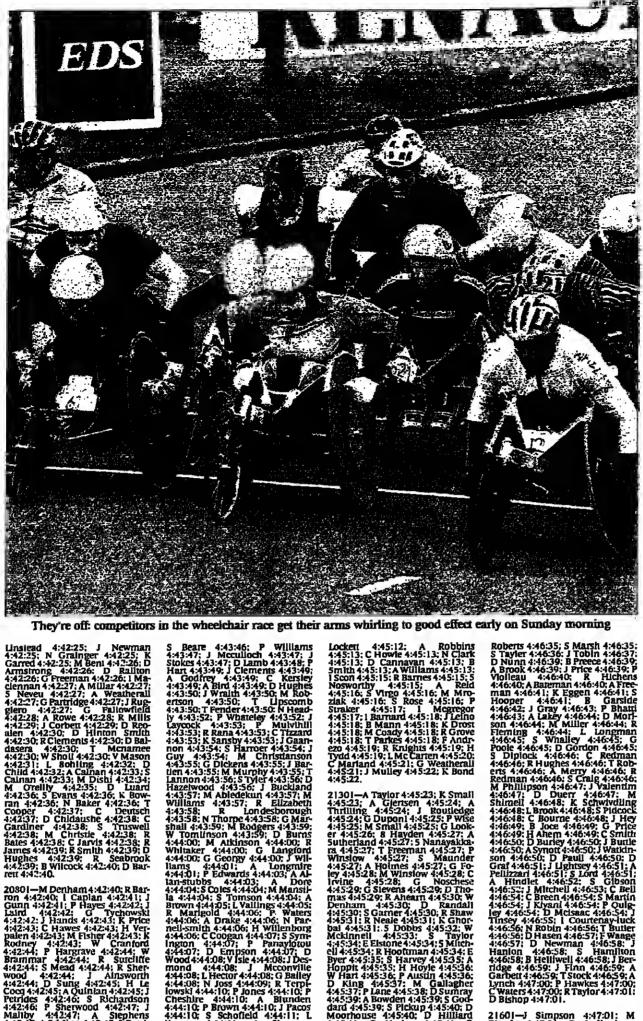
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CRICKET

## Miandad quits as coach after dispute

By Richard Hobson and Pat Gibson

EVEN in the volatile world of told Mahmood that he is avail-Pakistan cricket, the resigna-tion of Javed Miandad as coach yesterday, little more than three weeks before the start of the World Cup, comes as something of a shock. Less surprising is the fact that his decision stems from a dispute inside a notoriously fractious dressing-room.

Although Miandad, the only man to play in all six previous World Cups, originally cited family commitments as the reason for standing down, he later acknowledged that differences with senior players during the Coca-Cola Cup in Sharjah earlier this month had influenced his judgment. According to reports from Karachi, Miandad, appointed just eight months ago, upset members of the squad by de-clining to share a gift of 50,000 dirhams (around £9,000) donated by a Pakistan business-

dia in the final. "The allegations are baseless," Miandad said, "but the reports published indicate that the players do not want me. ff that is the case, then I do not want them either.

man after victory against fn-

He was known to have been unhappy at the decision to pick different squads for the event in Sharjah and the World Cup. Asked about the 15 chosen for the World Cup recently, he said: "The chief selector never contacted me, therefore I want to reserve my com-

Khalid Mahmood, the chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board, declined to comment on a split between the coach and players.

However, he had already snoken to Richard Pybus with a view to the Border coach assisting Miandad throughout the tournament and possibly taking over when Miandad's contract expired at the end of it. Pybus is believed to have idation and assaults.

Dealer West

able immediately, despite op-position from Dr Ali Bacher, the managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa.

Pakistan are due to arrive in England at the weekend and begin preparations at Derby next Tuesday. Their first game in the World Cup Is against the West Indies on May 16.

The sad prospect of the tournament losing one of its greatest attractions was raised yes-terday when Brian Lara, who put the smile back on the face of West Indies cricket with two of the most momentous innings in Test history, pulled out of his side's fifth one-day international against Australia in Guyana.

Not the least remarkable aspect of Lara's monumental 213 in Jamaica and 153 not out in Barbados, not to mention his blazing 100 in Antigua, was that he was playing with an injury to his right wrist, received on the tour of South Africa.

He admitted during the Test series that the injury was always on his mind because he could feel the pain when the ball jarred the bat but, for the most part, he fielded at slip and timed the ball so sweetly that it did not inconvenience him too much. It has been different in the frenzy of the oneday internationals, and, in the two games in Trinidad at the weekend, Lara was seen to be favouring his wrist in the field and dropped himself to No 5 in the order.

A crisis at the Board of Control for Cricket has disrupted the preparations of Sri Lanka. the champions. Board officials say that a court order suspending the newly elected committee means that the departure to England may have to be delayed. Elections to the board last month were marred by allegations of majpractice, intim-



Smith, the Gloucestershire left-arm bowler, shows his delight after having Blewett caught behind at Headingley

### Hayden makes promising start

Zil et Illo

By Thrasy Petropoulos

HOVE (first day of four: Susshire have scored 184 for two wickets against Susse

BY HIS own admission, Matthew Hayden may not have made the most of his opportunities for Australia, having played in only seven Test matches in five years since making his first appearance against South Africa.

But although be may not have fitted the bill for Australia - at 27 he is still young enough to put that right -Hayden's arrival on a twoyear contract to a club badly in need of a lead, both from a captain and an opening batsman, could not have come at a more appropriate moment for Northamptonsbire. There is little to suggest that

Hayden will do anything but fill his boots this season, fust as he has done over the years for Queensland, and as he did for Hampshire two years ago. In the 54.2 overs possible at Hove yesterday, he moved to within two runs of a century against Sussex, an innings notable for its power and apparent effortlessness. Sussex were left to rue three Umpres, VA Holder and TE Jesty

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Veteran's performance

Viktor Korchnoi, 68, twice chal-

lenger for the world champion-

ship, turned in an amazing performance in the Dos Her-

manas tournament. He lost

only two games and outdis-

tanced Viswanathan Anand,

the second highest ranked

I have already published

Korchnoi's win from the tour-

nament, as well as his loss to Michael Adams. Today's

game completes the selection of Korchnoi's decisive games.

Queen's Gambit Accepted

Nt6

**c**5

Cxd4 Be7

O-O Nd5 ReS Stra3 exd5 8d6 h6 Stre5 Qc7 Be6 a6 Rac3

Qe7 Bb3

Rxe7 Ba4 Rd8 Ra8 Nd8

Rxc8 Ne6 Nf8 Rc7

player in the world.

White: Boris Gelfand Black: Viktor Korchnoi

Dos Hermanas 1999

e3 Bxc4

0-0 Qe2 Rd1

Ba2 Nxd5

Qb5

B(3

Qxe7 Rd3

8g4 Rd6 t4

Bxc8

15 Bxd5 16 Ne5 17 dxe5

1a Bf4

10 a3 Nc3

missed catches, including a sharp chance offered by Hayden on 39, when Rajesh Rao failed to hold a thick edge high to his left at gully off Mark Robinson.

Rob Bailey and Russell Warren were the other two beneficiaries of fielding lapses. Bailey failed to capitalise on his when he played all around Alex Edwards' first ball and was leg-before, but Warren followed his captain's lead in reaching 39 in a partnership of 127 at the close.

Having moved to 98 with his fifteenth four off Robinson, Hayden gamely accepted the umpires offer for bad light. Personal ambition aside, he knows that his task has just begun.

OJG Sales, A.L. Penberthy, G.P. Swerin, tD. Ripley, J.P.Taylor, D.Follett and D.E.Malcolm

to pai. FALL OF WICKETS. 1-48, 2-57 BOWLING Kinley 12-3-50-0: Martin-Jenkins 13-4-38-1. Edwards 9-2-27-1. Flocknson 13-2-3-49-0: Adams 8-2-14-0

K/B

Nb5

Ke? Ke8

Ke7

Ke8 Nd6

Nc4 b6 Ke7

Nd6

Nf5+

Nh4+

KEENE on CHESS

Bd4

Bb6

Ke5

Bd4

Kg6 Bxb6

n5

57 Kg7

58

BY PAUL FITZPATRICK HEADINGLEY (first day of four; Gloucestershire won toss): Yorkshire have scored

196 for seven wickets against ucestershire THE burning question for Gloucestershire this season is how well they will fare without Courtney Walsh, whose 106 nett, at gully. wickets represented a crucial contribution to a good year in 1998 when the county finished

Harden repairs

damage on debut

fourth in the championship. Ian Harvey, an Australian allrounder, will need no telling that he has an all but impossible task trying to fill the void. Gloucestershire got by well enough without Walsh yesterfrom Tim Hancock. day, on a pitch of no great pace but which was unpredictable in bounce and offered persist-ent movement. Had Walsh

get much past 100. That they prospered to the extent they did was due in no on this pitch. small part to the experienced Richard Harden, who held the middle of the innings together after Mike Smith had removed both openers. Michael Vaughan and Greg Blewett. the Australian import, in an

impressive new-ball spell. Harden, 33, was a surprise recruit by a county renowned for home-grown talent. But the former Somerset player averages above 50 against Yorkshire in championship and one-day cricket, statistics which clearly convinced York-

been present, however, York-

shire might have struggled to

shire that he could do a worthwhile job for them.

Harden was strokeless at times during his stay of 158 minutes but punctuated a valuable innings of 43 with five handsome boundaries. It was a surprise, when, soon after tea, he cut Harvey to Kim Bar-

The other notable contribution to the early part of the innings came from Matthew Wood, a youngster keen to build on a promising debut season. Wood, well-organised and acquisitive, rose above the constraints of the pitch before following a widish delivery

Yorkshire's most fruitful stand, however, came as the light began to lade, a half-century partnership between Gavin Hamilton and Richard Blakey getting them close to 200, a more than useful score

YORKSHIRE: First linnings
G.S. Blowert of Russell b Smith
M.F. Yaughtan b Smith
\*O Byas a Barnett b Harvey
M.J. Wood of Russell b Harvey
R.J. Harden a Barnett b Harvey
White of Pursell b Harvey
White of Pursell b Harvey

R J Salebottom and M J Hopgard to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-14, 3-46, 4-86, 5-115, 6-127, 7-193
BOWLING Smith 18-6-48-3, Lowis 18-2-39-0, Allegrie 13-6-18-1; Harvey 18-7-38-2, Hancott 8-4-15-1; Barnett 9-3-16-0, Ball 2-1-0-15-0 GLOUCESTERSHIRE: K. J. Barnett, T. H. C. Hancock, O. R. Hewson, "M. W. Aleyne, M. G. N. Windows, I. J. Harvey, J. N. Snape, †R. C. Russell, M. C. J. Ball, J. Lewis, A. M. Strith. Umores: D J Constant and B Leadbeater

LEGAL NOTICES

## Yankey looks a sure bet at Highbury

ne FA Cup will be leaving the High-bury trophy-cabi-net for a northern home next month and the FA Carling Premiership silverware could follow a few weeks later. Just as well, then, that Arsenal Ladies. the club's other double-winners last season, are keeping their chances of a domestic treble alive.

Football's glamour girls have already retained the League Cup and want a repeat performance against Southampton Saints in the FA Cup final on May 3. Like their male counterparts. though, the women must hope for the mistakes of others if they are to win the Premiership title. Croydon are three points clear with two games left, so Arsenal must beat likeston on Sunday to keep the treble bid rolling.

Central to their success is Rachel Yankey, 19, the England winger, who has the same predatory pace and twinkle-toed skills of a play-

er she has reason to dislike. Unlike most of her teammates at Highbury. Yankey is a fervent Arsenal supporter and was at Villa Park to see that Ryan Giggs goal in the FA Cup semi-final replay against Manchester United. "I still can't believe we lost," she said, "I couldn't admire his goal when it happened - I was too gutted -

but looking at it since it was fantastic."

Arsenal Ladies love to beat their northern rivals, Doncaster Belles. iust as much as the men savour a win over United. surprise. then, that Yankey

claims her two goals against Doncaster in the FA Cup semi-finals last month were her highlight of the season. You could call them easy goals," she said, "but when there's a final at stake, even a tap-in makes you nerv-

Vic Akers, the first-leam's kit man, started Arsenal Ladies 12 years ago and is still their manager. According to Yankey, he is cajoling her to daim more "easy" goals. "He reckons I'd score loads more if I followed up our shots," she said.

Nonetheless, Yankey shares a prolific striking partnership with Marianne Spacey, a former England



centre forward. "Max is the leading scorer in the teague and I'm just behind her." Yankey said. "

Arsenal have the sponsorship and support that other clubs in the top flight can only envy. The men provide training facilities and their luxury coach for away games, while Nike supply kit. "Some say we're pam-pered." Yankey said, "but it's nice to be recognised for doing something well."
Only the eagle-eyed.

though, would have spotted her in the BBC series, Playing The Field. Yankey's mother. Jean, who watches

daughter home and away. can tell you that Some say character, "Shazza", was acwe are Rachel tually whenever a footpampered ball had to be kicked. "I had to at Arsenal' play football for about 20 min-

utes, but the rest was a bit boring," she said. Which is not how she described the open-topped bus to celebrate the men's and women's doubles last season. The roads were heaving with red and white, so it was really spine-tingling."

The "obstructed view" seats at Highbury, which the club gives to the women players, were not good enough for Yankey. Scraping together £220 to pay for a season ticket cannot have been easy, for Arsenal's female equivalent of Marc Overmars is unemployed. No matter, it seems, for this is a footballer who belongs at Highbury.

0171-782 7344

## SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

#### By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

In the quarter-final of the 1998 Gold Cup David Mossop's team narrowly beat Richard Winter's team. Paul Hackett for the winners had a difficult defence on this hand from the match.

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Ali Pase

West (Paul Hackett) bid Two No-Trumps over South's double of Tony Forrester's One Heart opening to show a good raise to Three Hearts (he and Forrester play fivecard majors). The subsequent auction demonstrated that someone did not have his bid. South having adopted a very strong sequence, so Hackett wisely refrained

Pass

from doubling Four Spades. Declarer won the first heart, crossed to dummy with a diamond to the jack and finessed the jack of spades. Hackett took the queen, and confinued hearts. and was on play after win-ning the third round. At this point he returned a club, and now declarer had the rest of

The winning defence was for West to return a diamond instead of the club. That cuts off dummy's fourth diamond

trick before trumps are drawn. My informant did not give me the diamond pips. and it is certainly possible that West could not tell whether East had two or three diamonds. But the bid-ding should have given West the right answer. When he was in with the third heart he should have been able to tell South had the ace of clubs: ▲ AKJ105

🗘 даз A Oxx

is not strong enough to dou-ble One Heart and then bid spades. With that hand South would overcall One Spade. Hence South was marked with the ace of clubs, and West's only chance was the communication-cutting play. ☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## 28 Rc8 29 Bxc8 30 f5 31 Bd4 32 Rd8 WORD-WATCHING

هم اماد استان داخانگیمی ادا حام مادی

By Philip Howard

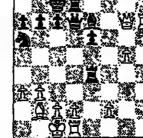
FLEECH a Flattery h. Suffolk woollen cloth c. A whinger

**GETON** a. A small flag

C A climber's aid

CODOWN a. An evensong canocle b. A night-dress c. A warehouse

GROLL a. A Viennese cream puff b. A goblín c. An idiot b. A sergeant's exhortation Answers on page 54



#### Bxd? Food 7 Nxd7 g6 h5 LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES g4 e6

**PUBLIC NOTICES** Christian Bessett Iste of Homesten, London, E.9 (filed Lines on I December 1998 (Better better 1998 Christian shout 273,000)

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Kg6 Kg7 Kf8 Nf5+ 61 Bd8+ Kg8 Kg7 Nh6-Diagram of final position 

Keene online You can send me your queries. puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

#### WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene



MANCRESTER UNITY
LIFE INSURANCE
COLLISCITIES OCCLETY
The Annyai General Masting of
this Society will be hold in The
Dun Theatre, Fort Eagent Colore,
St. Heiler, Jensey on Monday, 17
May 1999 at 5.50pts. Any other treasurer **LEGAL NOTICES** 

Black to play. This position is from the game Heimrath - Gold, Bad Zwesten 1999. White has become overly carried away with his own plans and has made a fatal oversight. How did Black

Solution on page 54



## unn anout, or be called upon prove, the costs of prepari statement of affairs and co ing the meating. DATED THIS 14 April 1999 | CORRIGAN Devid Hagrison of Crame & Pert-ment was appendent Liquidator by the shareholders. The Liquidator gives notice under the Provisions of hale 4,182A of the Deschwary Rules 1986, that the creditions of the company trend send thair de-naits, in writing, of any claim against the Company to the Liqui-dator at Rulium House, 44 Ma-sons HIII, Boundey, Kent SEZ 200, us them 1990 which is the last MTE 16 April 1999 NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ORDER THE LONGINGUES ARE TOPA TEN DRIVING TRAN (SCOTLAND) LIMITED (IN LIGIDIATION) ROTECE IS REMERY GIVEN that I, S D SWALDEN, PCA, of Loosand Curria, One Great Cambaghand Flace, Louden WHE RLE was appointed Ligiutilator of the above named Corpuny by the Members and Creditors on 15th Ayrd 1999. 2 D SWALDER, Liousdator

green. Dured 16 April 1999 1 B Stephenson & G R Gadeby

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 EULE 4.182(A) leadstack & Busian (Undorwitting Agencies) Limited Economicy Buchs (Underwriting Agencies) Limited Penimentary Underwriting Agency Limited

IN THE BIGGE COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCESTS DIVISION COMPANIES
CHANCESTS DIVISION COURT
IN THE MAITTER OF LIPUX
INTERCHANCES METWORK
LIBRITED AND IN THE MAITTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE BY HEZERST GIVEN chet a
Petition was on 7th April 1999
presented to Her Majesty's High
Coun of justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the showpassion secount of the abovepassion of the reduction of the abovepassion secount of the abovecampaign secount of the abovecampaign secount of the abovethe maid Petition is directed to
be beard before the Companies
Count Registers at the Royal Courts
of hardine, Erend, Londons WC2ZLI on Wednesday Sta May 1999.
Any creditor or shareholder of the
sald Company destings to oppose
the making of an order for the quachemistry of the said reduction of
above pregisters account should appear at the time of beauting in perpose, A copy of the said Petition will be formished to how such person rein the marter of Wilko Febrications Litted. Netters of Buchess, Engineering and Altied Industries. Administration Order made Flyth April 1999. D. Swaden, FCA and D.I. Power, FCA. John Administrators, BOO Stoy Hayanard CRI, 3rd Phore, Pater Hoose, St. Peter's Square, Manchester, MI SAR.

CHASE THE SHOULDEY
HOUSE THE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GAVEN years
an to Section 98 of the Insolvency
AC 1996, that a meeting of creditors of the above named Conspany
will be held at 84 Groswace
Street, London, WIX 9DF on 25th
April 1999 at 230pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 90 y-RECEIVED NUMBER RECUSTREED NUMBER: 3372233
NOTICE IS REREED GIVEN pursunant to section 48 of the Insolvency
Act 1986, that a general meeting
of the unsecured creditors of the
above-turnent company will be
held at 66 Broomfield Road,
Chelmarford, Essat Call 18w on 30
April 1999 at 10.30 has for the
purpose of having 2 report laid before the meeting and of hearing
my explanation that may be given
by the Administrative Receivers. the uses to above. Supported to be called a resolution to be called a resolution specifying the usums on which the liquidator is to be remnantated, and the meeting may secure information about, or be called upon to support, the nests of preparing the Epperva, the costs of prepar statement of affeirs and cong the mosting. By Order of the Board C. K. McAnley, Director I SCHAPERA ACA, of Leonard Counts A Co, One Great Canabechan Place, London Will Silk was ap-pointed Liquidator of the Above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 19th April 1999. I MEACE & SURS LIMITED IN ADMINISTRATIVE ENCEVIPESSIP ENGINEERED SUMMER: 615769 NOTICE IS HERRIFY GIVEN purposed and to section 48 of the Insolvence Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured medicor of the above-medical construction. TRUSTEE ACTS of the unsecured greektors of the above-smanned company will be held at 66 fivoamheld Road, Chainsefond Essen, Call 15W on 30 April 1998 at 14.30 are for the purpose of harding a veloper laid be-fore the westing and of beering any explanation that have be given by the Administrative Recutives. Creditors whose claims are whonly secured are set entitled to attend

MOUSE.

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## Davis finds cruel defeat hard to bear

WHILE the level of disappointment was not quite as acute as in 1985. Steve Davis still found his 10-9 defeat by Joe Perry in the first round of the Embassy world championship at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, yesterday a crushing blow.

Fourteen years ago, Davis famously lost IS-17 to Dennis Taylor on the black with the title at stake. having led 8-0. He recovered from a 7-2 overnight deficit against Perry to force a deciding frame but, even with momentum as a powerful ally. he was again denied.

Perry, the world No 74. became one of the select group of players to make a century on his debut at the Crucible but his commanding firstsession advantage owed more to a succession of unforced errors from the former champion.

On the resumption yesterday, Davis upped his tempo. Breaks of 51, 42, 64, 70, 46 and 45 allied to a refreshingly positive approach — he willingly took on the long pots that he has so often ignored of late helped him to draw level at 9-9.

Leading 52-0 in the deciding frame. Davis overcut a tricky blue to a middle pocket but, even then, with the remaining balls awkwardly located, it was difficult to imagine that Perry, so short of experience and table time during the session. could possibly win.

Having scored 24, Perry enjoyed an outrageous slice of good fortune. He fluked the last red, flicking it in off the pink and in doing so was dou-

CAPITAL One Nottingham

took the SRA National Squash

League (NSL) title for the first

time late on Tuesday night

with a 4-1 win over UK

Packaging in the final play-off

at St Albans. Nottingham, who defeated TSM Duffield.

of Derbyshire, the defending

league champions, in the regional pools, cruised unop-

posed into the final when Pot-

ters Bar were expelled from the league for failing to field a

The undefeated fifth string

woman, Natalie Grainger, of

South Africa, was detained by

the semi-finals of the WISPA

world grand prix play-offs in

Egypt, but Nottingham swept

resolutely through the men's

line-up put out by the UK

Packaging squad from the Connaught Club, in Ching-

ford. Simon Parke, the Eng-

land No 2. and David Evans.

the Welsh champion, led the

rout with four-game victories

over Tim Garner and Julian

**SQUASH** 

**Nottingham prove** 

worthy champions

BY COLIN MCQUILLAN

Lee Beachill and Jason Nicolle

following up with straight-

games wins over Stuart Cowie

The women's point went to

Linda Charman, but not before Tanla Bailey, the world

junior champion brought in to replace Grainger, had won the

opening game and taken the

pointed by Potters Bar failing to arrive for the semi-final."

Phil Songhurst, the team man-

ager, said. "We had regional

television units already set up.

But the first title for the club

remained the only undefeated

players in the league, finishing

with seven wins in seven ap-

pearances. UK Packaging,

who include the world No I,

Peter Nicol, and the world jun-

ior champion, Ong Beng Hee.

in their squad but failed to uti-

lise them in their NSL cam-

paign, defeated UNW North-

Grainger

more than makes up for it."

"We were bitterly disap-

and Lee Jemmett.

third to a tie-break.

bly blessed in that he both brought the pink into the open and obtained perfect position on the brown. "I was so nervous I had to start

taking deep breaths. My legs were like jelly," Perry, who exploited his lucky break to clear the colours and reach the last 16 of a world-ranking tournament for the first time since turning professional in 1991, said.

Last month, after losing 5-4 on the black to Stephen Hendry at the China international in Shanghai, Davis amusingly apologised to the local media for a delay in attending his press conference by saying: "I've been trying to kill myself."

Yesterday, he confessed: "! jus swore and swore my head off for half an hour. It's never nice to lose, particularly here. Of course 1 am sick, he fluked the last red for God's

While Davis did not lament his ill-luck any further, preferring to state repeatedly that it was the best snooker he has played at the champi-onship for a decade, his frustration was obvious for he must now rely on other results - such as Alan Mc-Manus defeating Jimmy White and John Parrott beating Chris Small to extend his tenure in the top 16 into a twentieth consecutive season.

Hendry, who replaced Davis as the game's predominant force in 1990 and has also triumphed at the Crucible on six occasions, was in danger of first-round elimination

for the second year in succession, af-ter losing to White 12 months ago. The Scot, 5-4 ahead of Paul Hunt-

er overnight, fell 8-7 adrift on the restart before displaying his re-nowned resilience. When Hunter overcut a red to a middle pocket with the sixteenth frame in the balance. Hendry put together a run of 36 to level at 8-8.

Hunter, one of the best players to emerge from the qualifying competi-tion, then fell victim to the increasing pressure.

His missed pink in the next frame led to a 68 break from Hendry and when Hunter jawed a straight blue to a balk pocket in the next, Hendry pounced with a break of 93 to complete a 10-8 victory.

"I'd have been in a state of shock if I'd lost, but I must admit there were a couple of times when I started to wonder what I'd do with myself over the next formight. I would have been especially guited because I know I am playing as good as ever," Hendry said.

Hendry, winner of four events during a season highlighted by his capture of the Scottish Open and Benson and Hedges Irish Masters titles, will meet James Wattana, of Thailand, in the last 16.

LINKS WEBSITES: www.embessysnooter.com - offi-cial tournament site www.encokerimages.co.uk - general information. TELEVISION: BBC1, 2.30pm; BBC2, 3.30, 6.45, 9.50pm.



An elated Perry salutes his supporters after sinking the black in the deciding frame of his first-round match against Davis

### **SPORT IN BRIEF**

RUGBY LEAGUE: Keighley Cougars yesterday released Lee Crooks, their coach for L2 months, after the Northern Ford Premiership side's fifth league defeat of the season. Crooks, the former Great Britain forward, said it was a financial decision and he had resigned by mutual agreement. Gateshead Thunder's home JJB Super League match against Wigan Warriors, on August 1, has been switched to Tynecastle. Edinburgh, where a franchise has been mooted.

FIREAL TENNIS: Kate Learning, of Australia, the eighth seed for the Guy Salmon women's world championship, was scratched from the event after arriving 15 minutes late for her second-round match because of a traffic accident on the M3. Although the match was played, with Leeming winning in straight sets, the organisers decided that she should be

**EXECUTABLE:** Five Derbyshire players have been included in the England squad to tour New Zealand and Australia next month. They will take part in the annual NZ Superstars series for the first time before travelling to Australia.

ENGLAND: J Zhozen (capteri), M Lonadaie, S Missioma, M Manuter (al Micideaev), O Murphy, K Asphrail, S Philips, A Aste, N Siddell (all Derbyshire), A-M Muller, L Law, A Newton (all Essex Mell, E Communick (Nerl), L Corporator (Surrey), T Nevilla (Greater Manchester), L Stanley (North Durham).

ECYCLING: Bradley Wiggins, the world junior pursuit champion, was named yesterday for the Great Britain team in the seven-day. 730-miles PruTour next month, together with Stuart Dangerfield, the national 25-miles time-trial champion. and Rob Hayles. The PruTour starts in London on May 23 and ends in Edinburgh on May 29.

BOWLS: Wales, who are preparing for the 2000 world outdoor championships in Johannesburg, won the first of four internationals against Botswana, triumphing in all six matches in the diamond-mining town of Jwaneng. After a shaky start, Will Thomas recovered his poise to score two full houses on his way to an excellent 25-16 victory over Tony Alien.

#### RALLYING

#### Kit-car triumph puts title chasers in panic

FROM JEREMY HART IN LLORET DE MAR

PHILIPPE BUGALSKI, of France, made history yesterday by driving the first rally kit car to victory in a round of the world championship. He won the Catalonia Rally here on the Costa Brava by 32 seconds from Didier Auriol. his compatriot, in a Toyota, In third place was Tommi Makinen, the world champion; in a Mitsubishi.

Bugalski, 35, the French champion, led from the start of the leg on Tuesday after Jesus Puras, his team-mate, failed to start his identical Citroën Xsara. No driver was able to get close to the twowheel-drive French cars. The heavier world rally cars. which use four-wheel drive. were at a great disadvantage on the smooth Spanish mountain roads. Citroën only enters three rounds of the world championship and specialises in making cars for the French domestic series, on asphalt. "I knew we would be quick,

but to have held off the champi-

onship regulars is thanks to Citroen. I only drove," a tear-ful Bugalski said. "Starting the last stages, I was very nervous. I hardly slept last night but I needn't have worried."

Bugalski's win was a blow for the seasoned championship contenders. Auriol desperately tried to close the gap in his Toyota but rain, forecast for the final stages, which would have benefited the heavier cars did not materialise.

Philippe deserves the victory," Auriol, the winner last year, said. "But they have taken points from the drivers' championship and that is not right. They only do a few rallies and they could end up taking the title from me."

Makinen snatched third place on the penultimate stage after Carlos Sainz, the local favourite, had a puncture and battery failure and dropped out of the points. The Finn, who leads the championship from Auriol by just three points, incurred a penalty of a minute for a jump-start on

Tuesday. In fifth place, behind Freddy Loix, of Belgium, was Richard Burns, the Briton, in a Subaru. Burns was also penalised on Tuesday for a jump-start and suffered with lack of grip from his tyres, "Until there is more grip, any chance of win-ning is far off," a disgruntled

#### Beadsworth on trail of Olympic medal

SAILING

FROM EDWARD GORMAN SAILING CORRESPONDENT IN HYERES

ANDY BEADSWORTH, for so long the leading British Soling skipper, is going through a familiar routine here on the Cote d'Azur. Like most of the Great Britain team, he and his crew have been billeted in the cheap studio apartments just behind the marina. Even with funding from the Nation-

al Lottery, life is run on a "stu-dent-style" budget. Yesterday, Beadsworth was looking ahead, to the chance of winning that elusive Olym-pic medal, in Sydney next summer. "We should have won a medal last time," he said. "There were many reasons why we didn't. We've got a better foundation to build on now and the time to do it. If you look at where we were four years ago compared to where we are now, we are ahead of the game."

But Beadsworth's disappointing fourth place in Savannah in 1996 underlined how difficult it is to produce the form necessary to win a medal on the day. Even now, he believes that there are up to ten crews in the Soling fleet capable of winning races in Sydney and among them are some formidable opponents
— including Jochen Schumann, of Germany, the triple
gold medal-winner, and Georgy Shayduko, of Russia, who won silver in Savannah.

Beadsworth bas no doubt that the margins between the top boats and the also-rans in both the fleet-racing and match-racing disciplines that make up the Olympic Soling challenge are much tighter than last time round. 'The biggest change is in the ability of the other competitors," he said. "At Savannah there were only a handful of people who could sail a Soling fast and match race, now virtually everyone can match race."

Rule changes have made the Soling medal more of a compromise than ever, with 12 of the 16 boats that qualify for the Games progressing to a complex match-racing climinator after eight fleet races. Beadsworth has won in both fleet and match disciplines over the past 12 months and seems unruffled by the new arrangements. But he has yet to secure a place among the 16 that will make up the Games fleet

The last chance, at which four more places will be decided, is the class European championships in Norway at the end of July. Among those still bunting a place are Schumann and Philippe Presti, of France. "Not having qualified yet is irritating more than worrying," Beadsworth said.

"It's all about winning a medal so you have to believe you are going to go to the Games. Realistically 1 can't see us not qualifying, but these things do happen," he added. Yesterday Beadsworth finished a consistent enough fleet-racing series to qualify in sixth place for the last eight that go into the match racing finale today and tomorrow.

### RUGBY UNION WRU and rebel clubs close in on agreement

By DAVID HANDS

THE intensely damaging saga of Wales's two rebel clubs may come to an end tomorrow il the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU) can announce a facesaving formula that will restore Cardiff and Swansea to the fold. The effect of their 18-month breakaway, however, will take longer to erase.

Talks have continued this week with both the union and club representatives acknowledging that a united way forward must be found.

The WRU's legal advisers and the Cardiff board must ratify the results but it is likely that television money, withheld by the WRU since Cardiff declared their intention of playing against England's leading clubs, will be paid and that the threat of legal action against Swansea for non-repayment of loans will be dropped.

But both clubs will be expected to pay fines of £150,000 imposed by the WRU for playing unsanctioned games and both will have to acknowledge a commitment to European competition.

Should all this happen, the English clubs will breathe a sigh of relief; their relationship with Cardiff and Swansea, driven through by wealthy club owners, began in a covert manner and it has been a running sore ever

The quality of matches in the Anglo-Welsh series has been uneven to say the least. while the need to cater for two "outsiders" during negotiations over purely domestic affairs has been damaging. It has caused great resentment among England's second divi-sion clubs while the top Welsh clubs that have remained with-in the WRU orbit will not be universally thrilled if Cardiff and Swansea automatically receive two of the five qualifying places for Europe next season. Indeed, Lyn Jones, the former Wales flanker who now coaches Neath. has already launched a scathing attack on Cardiff's cheque book" policy and the quality of rugby that they have played. You can see by their performances on the pitch that the hun-

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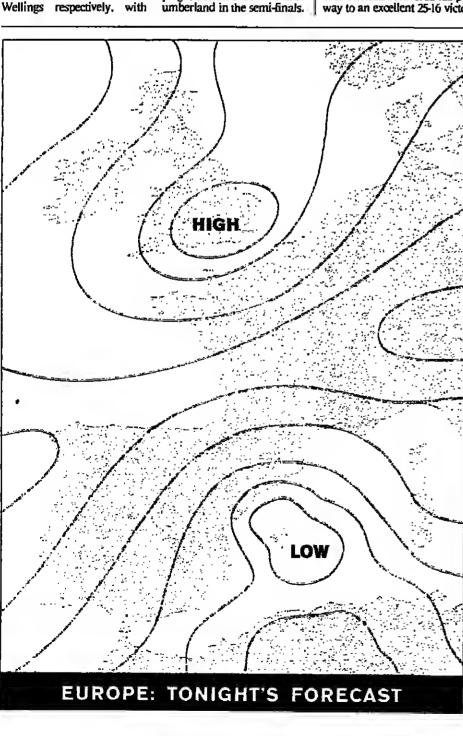
"They are having it too easy. Cardiff should cut salaries, instead of forcing other clubs into paying the same unsustainable wages as them." There has been considerable criticism in Wales of Cardiff's coaching panel. led by Terry Holmes and Charlie Faulkner, fuelled last weekend by the heavy defeat by Llanelli in the SWALEC Cup semi-finals. Cardiff are also wrestling

ger has gone from their play-

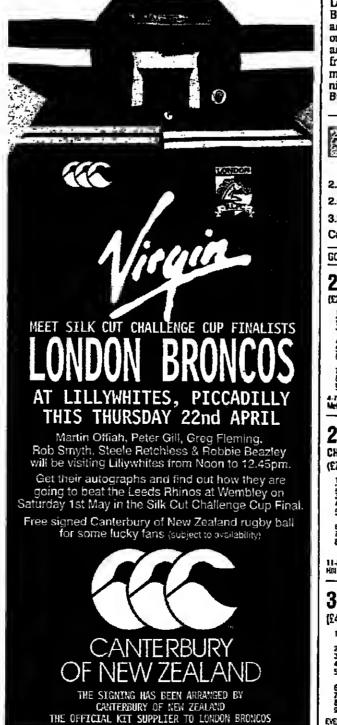
ers," Jones said.

with their neighbours, across the Severn, Bristol. Both clubs have made offers for Chris Wyatt, the Llanelli and Wales lock, and Bristol have also made a bid for Jonathan Humphreys, the Cardiff hooker and former Wales captain.

Bristol are seeking, too, to tempt Garath Archer away : from Newcastle and back to the West Country, where he first made his name.



Best of luck to Chelsea for their match against Real Mallorca.



#### PERTH, ROB WRIGHT 2.20 Mety Moss 3.50 Ashwell Boy 4.20 Prophits Pride 2.50 Prominent Profile 4.50 Grooving 3.20 Dun Coady 5.20 Country House Carl Evans: 2.20 Mely Moss. GOING: HEAVY (7.15AM INSPECTION) 2.20 ROYAL CALEDONIAN HUNT HUNTERS CHASE (£2,931: 3m) (9 runners) 1 P.2-4 ALTS ALER 41 (T.6.5) Alter Dickman 12-12-0 Mr C Methat (5) 2 S/42 CASTLEROYAL 18 (D.F.6) 8 McNerled 10-12-0 Mr J Crowley 118 3 2217 CHARLEADANS 19 (D.G.S) A J Martin (Re) 9-12-0 Mr S McGenzgle (7) 4 3802 DAS-MARA 11P (D.G.) K Robzen 12-12-0 Mr R Morgan (7) 5 ASP2 PSCAL POLET 6 (D.F.6.5) A Trotal 1-12-0 Mr R Trotal (7) 103 5 ASP2 RSCAL POLET 6 (D.F.6.5) A Rep Dickman 14-12-0 Mr V L Morgan (7) 7 32/2 MELY MOSS 14 (G.S.) C Egerton 8-12-0 Mr A Democracy 2008 8 -23 MWRETS MELCOY 6 (D.F.6.5) C Gaza 11-12-0 Mrs S Erant (7) 107 9 PLOM ML/PDCR MCSS 10 (D.S.) S Callered (1-12-0 Mrs S Carbert (7) 107 1-12-0 Mrs McMorra McGent (1-12-0 Mrs S Carbert (1-12-0 4-7 Mely Moss, 7-1 Capteroyal, Chartleadarrs, 10-1 Fiscal Policy, 12-1 Miners Metody, 16-1 Alf's Alfol, 25-1 Dastinar, Murder Moss, 50-1 Matic Rain. 2.50 NELSON MORRISON AGENCY FUTURE CHAMPIONS NH NOVICES HURDLE (£7,376: 3m 110yd) (8) 1 211 HOT TO TRO1 57 (0.6.5) N Barley 6-11-8 ... WRifamson 117 2 6445 MR CAVALLO 10 0F-6-51 Mbs. L Record 7-11-8 ... G Lee 98 3 0231 VALIGAN 40 (D.S) Lungo 6-11-8 ... W Dowling 105 4 3211 YOU'RE ABOODUN 8 (8.0.6.5) M Pise 7-11-8 ... A Magnite 108 5 1303 PROMINENT PROFILE 13 (0.6.5) N Investor-Dovins 6-11-4 6 4533 PESSANSTIC OOCK 17 (8) No. 0 ROUTISO 5-10-12 M FOSIER 87 PPOO SMIDOY LAD 3 (1) H Shies 8-10-12 M Fosier 87 PPOO SMIDOY LAD 3 (1) H Shies 8-10-12 S Mistrace 49 8 5212 THE HILL HAS MOYED 64 (SF.S.) P Hobbs 6-10-12 R Duthwoody 58 3.20 GOOCH WEBSTER MAIDEN CHASE

(£4,403: 2m) (9) 1 F523 CASTLE CLEAR 6 (D.S) Mrs M Revokey 6-71-7

2 PGFP DISTINCT 31 A Waglans 6-11-7
2 PGFP DISTINCT 31 A Waglans 6-11-7
3 6-36 DUN COADY 152 (8) K Bulley 76-11-7
4 PP55 ISLE OF RHUM 31 P Manuello 7-11-7
5 4P-P JACK DORY 187 Mrs. S Brathure 7-11-7
5 4P-P JACK DORY 187 Mrs. S Brathure 7-11-7

5 4P-P JACK DORY 187 Mrs. S Bratturne 7-11-7
6 -0PS PERSUASIVE TALENT 112 (8) 0 Lamb 4-11-7 . — J Burks 31
7 -480 SPECTRE BROWN 202 0 Notion 9-11-7 . — D Verton 45
8 GOUD PIANDONNA 2-9 P Bearmord 9-11-2 . 8 Gratter 6
9 64PS POLITICAL MANDATE 10 R Mison 6-11-2 . 8 Taylor 7-9 EVENS Castle Clear, 6-4 Dun Coady, 12-1 Political Mandato, 20-1 Species Brown, Drumsburg, 25-1 Distinct, late Of Brown, 32-1 others.

3.50 STEWART CATHERWOOD MEMORIAL (LITTLE BAY) HANDICAP CHASE (£8,271: 2m) (6) 2-1 Avaint Express, Ashwell Boy, 7-2 Kings Cherry, 11-2 Multiny Prince, 14-1 others.

4.20 GLOBAL MARINE SELLING HURDLE (£2,905: 2m 110yd) (9)

11-4 Prophyts Profe, 3-1 Mollinsburn, 4-1 Captain Tancieri, 5-1 Cocksura, 7-1 Just Jahr, 12-1 Court Joker, Guile Point, 14-1 others.

4.50 TOTE HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,898: 2m 4l 110yd) (10)

1 3500 OUT RAMONG 15 (D.F.G.S) M Pice 7-11-10. A Magnite 1th 2 Bloc KING OF THEVES 12 (C.G.S) C Marm 7-11-3 R Durwoody 1dd 3 33P2 VALEDACTORY 17 (D.S) P Monteoth 6-11-2. Why 252 (4 P43 ROSENCRANT 14 (F.G) Mass V Williams 7-11-1 N Williams 5 4621 HEART OF AVONDALE 10 (F.S) L LUIDO 6-11-1 (GO) 6 

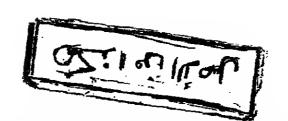
9 2441 CRYSTAL GIFT 24 (D.G.S) A Welkers 7-10-8 M Hornoise (3) 115
10 -P4P BOURBON DYNASTY 136 (S) M Richards 6-10-0 A Dobbie 4-1 Crystal Gift, 9-2 Out Ranking, 5-1 Cottainwn Boy, 11-2 Heart Of Associate 6-1 Valedictory, 8-1 Growing, 10-1 King Of Theires, 12-1 others.

5.20 S.B.J. NELSON STEAVENSON MARES NOVICES HURDLE (£5,654: 3m 110yd) (7)

11-8 Country House, 15-8 Lady Of Gortmanon, 9-4 Mystere, 14-1 others

**COURSE SPECIALISTS** 

TRABUERS, M. Pipe, 5 winners from 8 manners, 83.3%, A. J. Martin, 3 topf. 6, 50 0%, P. Hobba, 13 from 27, 48.1%, J. FitzGazzid, 7 from 19, 26.5%, Mar M. Reveley, 73 from 70, 32.9%, P. Belastroud, 7 from 32, 21.9%, OCNEYS P. Pierra, 23 winners from 73 rules, 31.5%, W. Doublin, 3 from 11, 27.3%, A. Magusta, 6 from 23, 26.1%, A. Dobbin, 19 from 81, 28.5%, 6 Guess, 8 from 39, 20.5%, G. Lee, 5 from 29, 17.2%,



RUGBY UNION TEDEL CLUBS close in on a greemen

Racing grieves after the deaths of Tim Forster and Paul Kelleway

## Men of character who left their mark

RACING yesterday mourned two of the richest characters in its modern pageant. Tim Forster and Paul Kelleway, each losing a brave battle with illness within hours of the other. The sorrow that united this diverse sport could hardly embrace the memory of two more different

Captain Forster, an august, bleakly humorous man, became an icon for steeplechasing rural constituency with three Grand National winners and a vivid contempt for the poison of urban values. He was 65. Kelleway, seven years his junior, offered an idiosyncratic and dauntless contrast in Newmarket, delighting in routinely pitching his Davids against the Guliaths of Flat racing. Both men had been forced into retirement by deteriorating health, though Forster

last of over a thousand winners under Rules on New Year's Day. If Forster had been free to decide a day to go, it would surely have been when there was racing at Towcester. in driving rain and bottomless mud. just like yesterday. The course observed a minute's silence for one of its most enduring patrons, a man about whom everyone has a story

retained a permit to train a few

point-to-pointers and saddled the

and nobody a sour word. The memories were of a private, educated man of rigidly conservative tastes, steely dry humour and a hatred of all things modern. Intensely superstitious, incurably pessimistic, old-fashioned to the point of eccentricity. Forster chainsmoked to calm his nerves and detested the hype and expectations that came with a top-class horse. Forster had been due to run his

winning point-to-pointer, Bagalino,

BY ALAN LEE AND CHRIS MCGRATH

at Towcester, recalled by all as his favourite track. Rodney Farrant, one of several jockeys present whose careers began under 'The Captain', said: "He loved it here and he would have considered this proper jumping weather."

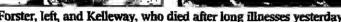
Hugo Bevan, clerk of the course at several of Forster's preferred haunts, remembered him as "incredibly shy and very old school". He added: "There was hardly a day at which t have officiated over the last 25 years when he didn't have a runner. I loved his pessimism nothing was ever good news."
It was Brendan Powell, the senior

man in a sombre Towcester weighing-room, who possessed the richest fund of Forsterisms, having first ridden for him in 198t and retained links ever since. "I could sit and tell stories about

the Captain all day." Powell said.
"He kept a daily diary of his training career and I reckon everyone in the sport would love to read it from cover to cover.

"I once rode a novice chaser called





Trimage for him, on this course, and in the parade ring he said: This horse is just like you - he's Irish and he's thick in the head but if you kick him cnough times, he'll respond. Then he just spun round

and walked away.

"He nearly had a fit one day when my mobile phone rang up on his gallops, and he hated jockeys' agents. Last season, Paul Carberry had been booked and the Captain said to me in real horror: 'I hear this man wears red gloves. I can't have someone riding for me in red

"We had a really decent horse called Coonawarra who had won five on the bounce and was 4-) on to make it six at Sandown one day. I saw the Captain with the saddle and asked how he [Forster] was. 'How do you think I am.' he said. 'I'd rather be at Towcester with a 100-1 shot. He never wanted the pressure, you see, he just loved things to sail along quietly.'

Kelleway, a robust soul who loved to defy the odds, was ultimately



Forster, left, and Kelleway, who died after long illnesses yesterday

defeated by the pancreatic cancer that hastened his retirement 18 months ago. He was as resourceful with cheap horses as with his wit. sustaining an uphill battle against more fashionable rivals with unwavering setf-beliel. He was fond of comparing himself to General Custer, surrounded by the Red

Indians of Newmarket - Mesers Cecil, Stoute and Gosden. His own last stand was rewarded by the success of Dovedon Star, his final runner, at Newmarket in October 1997. But earlier battle honours included seven group winners, most notably Swiss Maid, Madam Gay and Risk Me.

As a jump jockey, Kelleway had scaled the twin peaks of Chelten-ham with What A Myth (1969 Cheltenham Gold Cup) and Bula (Champion Hurdle 1971 and 1972).

Ray Cochrane, the Derby winning jockey, said: "He was a tough professional and there were no second measures, but when you got him away from horses, in his social life, he was a bloody good bloke."
Pat Eddery, his weighing-room colleague, added: "He came up with

some really good horses over the years. He didn't have the backing and he didn't have the cream, but he had a good eye for a horse and he trained them well. He will be sadly

On his retirement Kelleway sold Shalfleet stables to Jeremy Noseda and retreated to Spain with his wife. Gillian. He is assured of a tangible legacy on the turf, with three children - Gay, Anthony and Sarah - all training. But his memory will endure with the same independence that animated his life.

Obituary, page 27



Ben Nevis becomes the second of Forster's three National winners

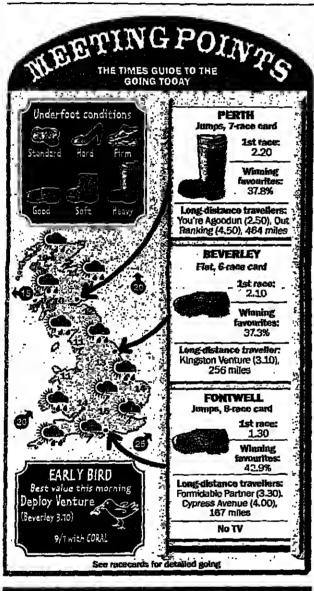
#### Daliapour makes case for Derby

IT WAS not the strict form of Daliapour's success in the Schroder Unit Trust Blue Riband Trial at Epsom yesterday that prompted William Hill to cut him to 12-1 third favourite (from 14-t) for the Vodafone Derby (Chris McGrath writes). Yet the aplomb with which Daliapour executed this simple assignment on his reappearance offered legiti-mate grounds for interest in his return here in June.

This low-key start was char-acteristic of the stealth with which Luca Cumani nurses a colt towards a possible crack at the Derby. Daliapour will improve for his exertions, albeit few were required to pre-serve the lead he established as the stalls opened.

More significant was the aptitude he showed for the peculiar demands of Epsom. While the son of Sadler's Wells will he well served by the extra two furlongs of the classic, he also showed a slickness on the bridle that will make life easier for his jockey, Gerald Mossé.

Cumani, who first won the race with Kahyasi and added High-Rise last year, was re-strained about his prospects of following up. "He's proba-bly asked to do more on the gallops," Cumani said, "but at least he showed that he acis well round here." Kahyasi and High-Rise completed their Derby preparations in the Lingfield Trial, and Daliapour will follow suit.



#### YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

#### Epsom

2.05 (iii) 1, The Fugetive (M Tebbut), 15-2, Rob Wright's nap), 2, Twoc As Sharp (10-1): 3, White Errur 15-1), Stylish ways (Str) 9-2 lav 15-ran MR Alpen Wolf 4, 3 ii P.Michol Tote 125-30 E1.80, 23-00, 122-10 DF 125-00 CSF 126-99 Tocas) 1572-54 2.35 ftm 21 (8/d) 1. Dellepour (6 Mosse, B-13 tar. Timeleseper's top rating), 2, Lightning Arrow (15-8), 3, Helvoltus (20-1) San 21-3, 31 L Cuman 7 fore £1 60, £1 10, £1 70 DF: £1 10 CSF, £1 70 \$1.0 (Pr §110) CSF £110 \$1.0 (Im 4) 10yd) 1, Kinnesetash (R Cochrane 6-1), 2, Montecnsto (7-1), 3, Min-res (9-2), Red Ramona 100-30 fav 17 nan RR Random Kindness, White Plans 11, 14 P Bowen Tote £9 20, £2 50, £2 40, £2 00 0F £22 80 CSF £56 66 Tincast £256.24 r cover fore 19 20, 27 50, 52 40, 52 00
DF 52 60 CSF 526 66 Tricast 2256;24
3.45 (Im 21 18yd) 1. Chief Cushter (A
Daly 6-1 Early Bird selection at 10-1): 2,
Royal Arrayato (16-1); 3, Kowarra (4-1 fav)
12 ran NR: Another Time, Shaddod 21, 31 3
Balding Troe 52 80, 51 80, 54 70, 51 80
DF 5174 10 Tole Trilecta 51,483,60 CSF
586 72 Tricast 5385 22
4.15 (Im 114vd) 1, Kushter (L Dettor, 4-1),
2, Border Prince 15-27, 3, High Hoyland (9-4
fav) 14 ran NR Cha-Yo, Greenstone 114,
41 L Cumam Tole 54 70 51 70, 51 40,
51 40 DF 65 10 CSF 512 24
4.45 (Im 114vd) 1, Casidat Seventeen
1Pai Eddery, 8-1, our Mertmarket
correspondent's nap), 2, Peaceful Sarah
(7-2 fax) 3, Northern Sun 112-11 12 ran
NR Bold Onental Feel No Feer, Tran 214,
11 P (7Arc), Tole 59 50 52 40, 51-40,
523 00 DF 523 20 CSF 634 01
Jackpots 585,800,70.

Going: soft, good to soft in places

Jackpot: £85,800.70.
Placepot: £38.20. Quadpot: £14.70.

#### Catterick

Golog: soh, heavy in places 2.00 (6) 2) 2(d) 1. Placede Cathre I Angele Hartiery 9-11, 2. Bigshing Grenader (6-11 3. Bernardo Bellotto 111-3). San Michel 4-1 lav. 14. ran. Hid. 3.14. Mirs. G. Rees. Tote 513 50, 523 00, 523 00, 53 90. DF. 545 70. CSF 558 47. CSF ESB 47

2.30 [Sh 1, Foodley (W Supple 2-1) 2, French Mystery (14-1), 3, Schalz 116-1) Lady Sandrovich (Sth 15-8 Ian 9 ran NR Melodic Heights 2-1, 2-4 E Assion Tole 270 Er 10 ES 40, ES 30, DF ESB 90 CSF, ESB 90

3.00 (7) 1, Hadeqa [J F Egan, 5-1) 2, Greekla (10-1) 3, Three Leaders (25-1) 4, Ethe Barmond (14-1) Guest of Honous 94 Iav 16 ran NR Pandyloce Springs Notherbursh 9, Tul P Evans Tole ES 40, ES 30, ES 548 15 Tislast 21,053 32

3.30 (17) 3, 214 vb. 1, Aldwingth Arrow (J CSF £48 15 Tixtast £1,053 32 3.30 nm 31 214yd, 1, Aldwych Arrow D Carroll 91 12. Aspirant Dencet (9-2), 3. Chistal Fa8s (10-1) Ardeigh Chermer 9-4 fav 12 ran 95 nd 61 M Budsley Tote £15 80, £2 90 €1 40, £3 90 DF £276 90 CSF £49 37 Tindast; £900 64 4.00 ilm 31 £1ydd 1 Donnares (D Hol-cht 1-2 fav) 2 Toto Caelo (7-4) 3 West-em Command £5-11 4 ran 11 dat MJohn-son fore £1 30 DF £1 10 CSF £1 49 4.35 (7) 1. Gunner Sam 10 Hotsend, 6-13

4.45 (7) 1. Gunner Sam (0 Hotend, 6-13 4.35 (7) 1. Gunner Sam (0 Hotend, 6-13 4.37 (2 The Haka (16-1); 2 Mater Ma (7-1) 2 ran (1), 62 Tota (21-60) (21-20) (21-90), 42-00 OF 66 60 CSF (213-05)

5.05 (5t) 1. Bevelene (J F Egan, 11-2 jl-lav); 2. Rose's Treasure (20-1); 3. Avondale Gir (14-1); 4. Onel Star (6-1) Sounds Ace 11-2 jl-tav. 16 ran NR; Claudus, Thomaby Girl 2t, hd P Evans. Tota £5 90; C2.80, £4 00, £3 30, £1 60 OF £78 60 CSF. £118 34 Tricast £1,450 65 Placeoot: £85.20. Quadpot: £19.30.

#### Towcester Going: soit

Coongs son 2.10 (20) holler 1, Stemford Hill (A P Mc-Coy, 3-1 fav), 2, Sabre Butt (10-1), 3, Chad-wick Bare (50-1) 1 T fair. NR Rathure 41, 1/4 M Ppc Tote 5, 80, 52 30, 52 90, £10 80 DF £44 90 CSF; £26 37. UF 20 90 USF 21T.87 4.28 (2m 110,d ch) 1, Gale Tol (Mr P York, 6-4 lev) 2, Jack The Td (14-1, 3, Comb of Smural (3-1) 11 rain MR Formal India-ion, Hatham Tam, Lord Kilton, Savut, Su-per Sharp 29, nd Mss C Butoft 70fe 22 20, £1.20, £2.80, £1.50 OF £10.90 USF 520.00 CSF. 520 10
4.50 (2m 6) chi 1, Royal Tombay IJ A Mo-Canth, 1-2 fav. 2 Moonlighter (15-6), 3, Bubbles Galore (33-1) 4 ran NR. Edisone Guignot du Cochet, Merry Shot, Take My Side, The Bizzo 6), dist. O Sherwood, Tote £130 DF £150 CSF £174. E130 DF £150 CSF £174.

5.20 (3m hdfel 1, Dunaton Bill (W Worthington, 7-2 ji-law), 2, Mershager (10-1), 3, Summer Flower (4-1), Wild Hadder (4th) 7-2 ji-law / B ran NR Beyyerd, Durnlord Bay, Elegant Fan, Humcane Jane, Inner Light, Merkris Bay, Olabud Prancing Blade, Sovereign, Sh fid, 114 & Leavy Toler £4 80: £130, £3, 40; £120 DF, £13, 40; £55; £32, 42 Troast £130, 27 Placebook £1,798,20.

#### Carlisle in doubt

Placepot £1,798.30.

CARLISLE'S meeting tomor-row remains in doubt after a further inspection was called for 7.30 this morning when officials looked at the course vesterday afternoon. The going is heavy and still not raceable," said clerk of the course Johnny Fenwicke-Clennell.

#### BEVERLEY 3.40 Coffee Cream 4.10 Compton Ace

2.10 Ferny Factors 2.40 Caerosa 3.10 Gypsy (nb)

Our Newmarket correspondent: 3.10 Deploy Venture. 4.10 ANGELS VENTURE (nap). 4.40 Twickers. Timekeeper's lop rating: 3.10 DEPLOY VENTURE,

4.40 TWICKERS (nap)

GDING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: SF, HIGH BEST SIS

#### 2.10 PANNELL CLAIMING STAKES

(3-Y-0; £2,364; 1m 1f 207yd) (11 runners)

1998: DANCING RIO 9-5 C Lowber (2-1 by) P Hastam 10 ras SUNSET LADY tailed to take to the sand this worker but can bounce back returned to buri. She was winning for the third burie back reasons when tradition withoutly all to bear Pretly Dovious 1% in an Ayr (10th, heavy) russery less October and had previously proven her staming over looky's this when second in a large field at Notingherm. As on those occasions, the stable's promising apprentice Paul Goode lates the rade. Cooking Castle showed ability in the first of his times state less the rade. Cooking Castle showed ability in the first of his times state less were when finishing his over 10 this of 12 to Indian Prome at Pontercal (6). Although Study bried, he may have found the 1 to 354-trip stretching his stamina when 181 12th of 19 to Dalby Ol York at Wordsor on Monday and can not be nied out. Alama's Cavaller, wanter of a seller at Southwell [1m] in January, last place claims on this \$1 fourth of eight Luz Bay in a similar event at Warwick, Unit 44:1) 17 days ago, likewise Tilotino on her 71 south of 17 to Angle Marinie in a Nottingham (1m) seller.

#### 2.40 HAPPY BIRTHDAY DANA FILLIES HANDICAP (£3.129, 1m 1f 207vd) (19 lunnels)

1998: TYCOON TINA 4-9-1 A McCarthy (13-2) W Brisbourne 15 ran

MANNI, trained by Goodl Levis, when beating Jungle Story 41 at
Newbury (1m-2) off a 4th lower mark last July, has strong
class reads. Aurough unable to ach to has summer victory lest year, the daughter of Denehulf held her
form well and was anything but dispraced when signing off with a 55-1 fifth of 15 to La Tustora at
Newbury (1m-2). Proceedily, anchore to switch stables this writter, made a pleasing start to new
connections when beating D. Woodstock 11-1 in a 19-uniner Ripon (1m-4) selling handloop 15 days
ago, A 3th higher mark appears for but the form is of questionable value and Caertosa, around 6f fifth
of 20 to Christientsed at Ripon (1m-4) sellier this morthurary prove a bigger threat. The Barinsky
Belle is a pound higher in the handloop than when winning on the all-weather at Southwell (1m) in
February but has been of the course for two morths since a disappointing last run.

### A SEADING THE BACKLEY Placocard member. Draw in braciets. Six-figure form (F. - Itali, P. - pulled up., U. - unseated rider. B. - brought down. S. - stipped up. R. - relused. D. - disqualdred), Horse's name. Days since lest outing: J. di jumps. (B. - blinkers, V. - vicor. T. - tongue strap. H. - hood. E. - Eyeshield. C. - course wanner. D. - distance winner, CO course and distance winner, BF -besten lavourite in most recent tace). Soing on which horse has won (F - Rim, good to Brim, hard, B - good. S - soil, good to soil, heavy) Owner in brackets. Trainer Age and weight to be carried, Rider plus any allowance.

#### $3.10\,\text{c.n.}$ wilmot-smith retirement (showcase handicap)

(3-Y-O: £4,049: 1m 1t 207yd) (15 lunners) 

BETTING: 5-1 Pelan Helpins, 11-2 Justingvarstree, 8-1 Loop The Loup, Kingston Ventura, 9-1 Deploy Venture, 10-1 Enlitate, High Regard, Nathan's Boy, 12-1 Butterscotch, Edmo Heights, 14-1 Gybsy, Sagavine, 20-1 Master Tirst, Time To Win, 33-1 Way Back 1998; TENSAE 9-2 R Firench (8-1) L Current 13 ram

Mark Tompkins his made a fast start to the season and could have a leading say here with GYPSY. The son of Distinctly Morth found life tought in frandicaps after winning a maiden auction event at Yampouth (7) last July but has tallen from an opening mark of 74 to 65 boday. Although his sare was a sprinter the selection or related to a middle-distance winner abrorad and stayled a mile well enough at two-years. Deploy Venture is just one of many dangers. He was unfortunate to calch an unexposed mail when beaten 195 by Tactul Remark at Kempton (1m 11) on his reappearance and is just a pound higher in the weights there. Pethan Heights and Kingston Venture have both been raised 6th for their reappearance victories, the former beating Beryl 31 at Nottingham (1m 20, and Kingston Venture facking clear over 31 onl to beat Romaro 1 M at Doncaster (1m 21). Their channes sold, as as those of Jushipyonustriest, a 3-I second of 13 to Prairie Wolf at Ripon (1m) on his return to action a week ago. Loop The Loup appears one of his stable's lesser lights but remains open to buttler Improvement and starts his legislicap caseer of a realistic mark.

#### 3.40 WILLIAM HILL RATED HANDICAP

(3-Y-D; £6,090: 7( 100yd) (5 runners)

Long Nandicas: Forty Forte 8-6. BETTING: 2-1 River Times, 9-4 Forty Forte, 9-2 Colleg Cream, 5-1 Spy. 7-1 The Haulies.

1998: FIZZED 9-4 D Holtand (9-1) M Johnston 13 ran

1998: FIZED 9-4 O Hotano (9-1) M Johuston 13 ran

Forty Forte, emphatic 15t winner of a setter in soft ground at Motimpham last month, ran well in deteat behind The Whistillag Teal at Window (1m), on much laster ground, last Monday, He will be a popular chouse to go one better, particularly if the going eases further River Times ran monteralety on this return (first attempts on soft ground) but bounced back, ma more event, on a sound surface over course and distance last week. This tooks a bit lougher, though, and COFFEE CREAM can grow like pick. She confirmed the promise of the detail when losing her maiden lay decisive lastion at Kempton (71) in September, and her subsequent numing in a listed contest at Nicemprizet the following month (finished last of lan to Smithenby) is best ignored as she refused to settle in a race unit at a craw! She has scope and, while taking a recent lum, does not look too last-thy treated on her hondizing how The Haufer, winner of a nursery at Recent land, so that 3th higher than when beaten at Redear (61) on his final start, is more exposed than the selection, while Spy has been all the course since winning an ordinary maiden race at Musselburgh in August.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Fontwell Park: 5.00 Just A Tad, Measureless.

#### 4.10 MOORTOWN MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-0: £2,804: 1m 3f 216yd) (8 runners)

4-3 ANGELS VENTURE 15 (BF) (Dr F Chan) S Woods 9-0 ... Dane D Well 1904 COMPTON AKE 206 (E Present) G A Builer 0-0 ... Destor 55 3- DOURLE RAILEYS 206 (Double Balleys Partnership) M Johnston 9-0 D Halbard 35 G PANCAKE WOOD 77 (Greenbard Park Lud) M Johnston 9-0 D Tournel 324-180-180 (PARCAKE) 192 (Mrs. A Bell) S Keitkwell 8-9 ... M Fenton 62 O6-2 Nika NESBODA 10 (C Humphres) J Drainlop 8-9 ... PR Edeby 54 O6600-RAINBOW RAVER ) 7-1 (A Nesdigart) C Shah 8-9 ... F Edgar 45 SHAMSAT M (1970 (Sheikh A 2-Makhorn) LU Javrs, 8-9 ... P Robinson --BETTING: 11-8 Nike Mespods, 4-1 Angels Ventur, 11-2 Double Ballers, 6-1 Shamed Misto, 8-1 Comptor Aco, 10-1 Highly Fancied, 25-1 Pancale Wood, 33-1 Rainbow Paver, 1998: SEIGNORIAL, 9-0 J Red (9-4) P Chapute-Hyam 4 ran

1998: SEIGNORIAL 9-0 J Red (9-4) P Chapute-Hyam 4 no.

Two Derty entries — Angels Vertuse and Compton Ace —
put their credentials on the line here but they might be 
upstaged by NIKA NESGODA. John Dunlop's filly ran highly 
encouragingly on her tetural when, despite being weak in the market, she ran Maiden's Blush (trained 
by John Gosden and an Dales possible) in a head of Windsor (1 m 2)) lest week. The way that Nika 
Nesgoda kept on that day suggests this longer trip with hold no terrors and, given her round action, and 
a sea hittle wonder that he dut not show much ability until unlegshed over 10 harborgs at Bath (around 
4 4th to Bergarno) on his final start of last term. This longer (outney is sue to such him even being 
Angels Verburer shaped with so much promise on his debut all hermanket has term that he was odd; 
on to open his account at Ripon (1m) this month, but he looked short of speed and could finish only 
third to Tier Viloner (beaten 3). He promises to stary has kept but his lack of pace may again be 
exploded. Mask Johnston trus Double Balleys, wery given when that to Eichen Shora at Reduct in 
September, as were as Pandales Wood, never dangerous on his debut at Newcastle. Sharnsat Micro, a 
half-scier to a winder in Germany, is worth noting in the market.

#### 4.40 FULFORD MAIDEN STAKES (£4,101.5f) (18 runners)

| Description |

1996: EASTER OGIL 3-9-0 L Denor (S-2) I Batting 10 ran

INGCKERS fixes plently for recommend firer in what footics a modest contest. Speedilly bried, she made a pleasing debut when feeping on well at the business end of the race fit be around 41 fourth, of 14, to Deadily Nightshade at Bath (Sh in August, A reproduction of that effort, in the company, is filterly to be good enough and, oven that she is favourably drawn with Kieren Falson bootest to ride, there ought to be no excuses. Pavic Lady, dropped in distance, is speedy and drawn to take advantage. She was not entirely disgraced when under 17 stain to Risky Valentine at Nottingform (6) last time autien groups as the biogest danger Desent Darfing went the enong way last term after an encouraging first start at Lingfield. He could prove brobblesome if back on song, but has a low draw to overcome. Pure Beganda, who had Against The Bill and Rootly Stations (both held) behind when to overcome. Pure Beganda, who had Against The Bill and Rootly Stations (both held) behind when to evercome and 91 of Thirsk tast week, should find a rate or two before the season is out. Carmarthen, Sir Sandrovitch and Royal Artist have also hinted at ability and make more appeal than American Cousan (yet to win from 11 starts). 1998: EASTER OGAL 3-9-0 L Denour (5-2) I Baiding 10 rans

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rors	%	JOCKEYS	Wins	Ross	%
M Johnston	27	123	22.0	L Detton	В	34	23.5
E Duniop	Б	28	21.4	W Ryan	10	46	21 7 20 4
J Dunkoo	10	47	213	K Darley	40	196	20 4
Mrs M Reveley	10 15	181 151	18.5	T Sprake	3	16 155 30 79	18 6
J Berry J FitzGerald	21	121	174	k Failon	26	155	16 (
J FitzGerald	7	43	16.3 12.0	Pat Eddery	5	30	16 7 15 7 12 7
B Hanbury	3	25	120	D Holiand	12 15	79	15 2
C Thormon	4	35	114	J Canon	15	118	12.7
R Faher	Б	55	10.9	LI Fenton	9	72	12 5
T Easterby	14	43 35 35 131	107	J Farming	5	46	109

#### FONTWELL PARK ROB WRIGHT

1.30 Medium Wave 3.30 Yeoman Saitor 2.00 Harik 2.30 Ehtefaal 4.00 Honey Mount 4.30 Woodlands Beau 5.00 Lord Optimist 3.00 Regal Aura GOING: GOOD

#### 1.30 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES & TWO COUNTIES MAIDEN HURDLE (Div I: £2,233: 2m 2f 110yd) (16 runners)

7.3 Purple Ace: 4-1 Medium Wave, 9-2 Fallah, 6-1 Stelphoner, 7-1 Candie Smoke, 10-1 Gregorio, 14-1 Carda De leanena, 16-1 others

#### 2.00 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES & TWO COUNTIES MAIDEN HURDLE (Div II, £2 215: 2m 2f 110yd) (16)

(Div II. 52 215: 2ml 21 110yd) (16)

1 2PP ACADEM MOUSE 101 (0.77 D McCzroy 6-1)-7 S Dorsch

2 O BALLEBORGUER BOY SSEP C O'Brein 5-1)-7 W Marron

3 400 CALDEM ROAD 28 44ct 5 50mats 6-11-7 Mr N Ferby (7)

1 O-PD ELVIS 64 1, Nov 5-11-7 1 Aspel

5 405 CALDEM ROAD 26 44ct 5 50mats 6-11-7 Mr N Ferby (7)

1 O-PD ELVIS 64 1, Nov 5-11-7 1 Aspel

6 50 GARE MLL 26 1 50m 5 5-11-7 D Burrows (5)

7 5 GREAT CRUSS 50 10 (10 F Page 7-11-7 Mr Batchelor (5)

8 664 ROSS TOWN 44 1 Aspect 6-11-1 Mr Griffiths (5)

10 0F SOCI OF GLEA 300 7 Februar 7-11-7 Mr Rochards

10 CCC CLAY ROSS 60 7 Propert 7-11-7 Mr Rochards

10 CCC CLAY ROSS 60 7 Propert 7-11-7 D Gallaghes

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10 15 02 THISED WITH 60LD 17 1/55 H YOUTH 411-0 M A RETURNED 13 WELLE CHORSEN 13 M Roy 4-16-9 A P McCoy 11-13-952 State: 0-052-65 Stan, 74 Have 15-1 states

#### 2.30 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES AND FINBAR HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,600: 2m 6l 110yd) (17)

(12,600: 2m 6l 110yd) (1/)

1 3333 AMAZE 17 (8F,FG) Laby Herrico 10-12-0 ... W Greatrex (7):
2 2100 PROVINCE 17 (S) C Marin 6-11-12 ... J Majere
3 422- POLO RIDGE 335 (B; D,G) D Sherrrond 7-11-12 J A McCarriny
4 0-R9 TEIDDER STILLARDNOW 9 R Howe 8-11-4 ... B Festion
5 0500 PALABADON 18 (G) B Balking 5-11-1 ... B Festion
6 0446 DLAIS 30 (F,B) J Jentons 10-11-1 ... A P McCoy
7 0642 PFITFAAL 17 (F,G) J Ring 8-10-13 ... L Cummins (5):
8 24U3 BINE MID TAKE 17 (S) R Freet 6-10-11 ... J Frost
10 0304 STRONG MASIC 48 (T) Miss C Johnsey 7-10-8 ... B Thornton
11 4SSU FOX RIDGE 35 Miss S Elevande 7-10-7 ... L Aspell
12 0001 BANJO HIL 17 (D,G) C Weedon 5-10-4 ... D Burrows (5):
13 0344 BANJON STRUNG C 19 (CS) M Madignick 7-10-0 ... C Murray (7):
14 0PPD SIR GALEFORCE 15 (6) R Curs 9-70-0 ... J R Cavardagh
15 00-0 MAGGE STRATT 17 (7) PAS A King 7-10-0 ... Southle Mittabel (17 4-00 SPWA 34 0 0 Pitten 5-10-0 ... B Reventing 17 4-00 SPWA 34 0 0 Pitten 5-10-0 4-1 Polo Ridge, 5-1 Antaze, 7-1 Patternon, 8-1 Province, Ettelael, Banjo Hill, 12-1 Tenter Sruguon, Gree And Tate, Strong Magic, Djals, 14-1 For Hidge, 16-1 others.

#### 3.00 GEORGE GALE & CO HANDICAP CHASE (£2,900: 2m 2f) (14)

1 APAP SEPRA BAY 28 (F.S.) 0 Sterwood 9-11-11 ... J A McCarety 2 5023 JAZZY REPRAIN 28 (F.S.) 1 Weils 9-11-2 ... L. Aspeel 3 4030 TWN FALLS 33 (C.F.6.S.) Poths 8-10-13 ... Mr P Fyrm (7) 4 P-14 REGAL AURA 38 (F.F.G.S.) 0 O'Breen 9-10-10 ... W Marston 5 -305 ACCIEAN 18 (C.F.S.) 6 Englin 10-10-6 ... R Thomson 6 1454 PARLIAMENTARIAN 19 (B.CD.F.G.S.) 1 Casey 10-10-5 6 U454 PARLIAMENTARIAN 19 (BCD.F.6.S) 1 Casey 10-10-5

0 Gallagher
7 2404 QUANSO 17 (B.6.S) C Mann 7-10-3

8 5-12 DR ROCKET 201 (C.F.6.S) R Deckin 14-10-0

X Abbanu (3)
9 4PDP JHAL FREZ 19 (7) A Bance 11-10-0

A Bates (3)
10 -1PU KYBOZ REVENISE 19 (C.S) R Hove 8-10-0

X Ferton
11 /F-2 NECTAMEBO 17 (F) B Ryati 11-10-0

12 1564 QPRIAN QUEEN 36 (CD.F.6.S) / Sation 9-10-0

X Division 30 (CD.F.6.S) / Sation 9-10-0

X Division 14 U02U SMART GUY 17 Mrs. L Jesseti 7-10-0

T Propies (7)

#### COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAKERS R.J. Smith. 3 withers from 3 tomess, 100%, I Williams. 4 from 1, 57 1%, Mass V. Williams, 11 from 27, 40,7%, J. Jung, 3 from 11, 21,3%; M. Pipe, 27 from 107, 25,2%, P. Rechens, 6 from 25, 24,0%, P. Hobes, 13 from 56, 23,6%, G. Miccoland, 3 from 14, 21,4%, R. Dickin, 7 from 34, 20,6%, D. Millams, 5 from 25, 20,0% winders. 3 not 22. 2007 . IOCKE'S, A. Alexanu, 4 minhes from 11 intes. 35.4%, a. McCoy, 39 from 157, 25.5%, D. Gallagher, 15 from 63. 23.8%, P fielde, 23 from 128. 16.0%, C. Mauste, B. from 45, 17, 5%; M. Fitzgerald, 11 from 72, 15.3%, J. Goldston, 4 from 31, 12.9%; L. Camanace, 3 from 34, 12.5%, B. Pomelt, 15 from 122, 12.3%, Only qualifiers.

#### 3.30 STREBEL BOILERS AND RADIATORS NOVICES HURDLE (£3,030: 2m 6l 110yd) (14)

11-10 Yeoman Sador, 7-4 Merry Peth, 14-1 Southdown Lad. Flying Footse, 16-1 Formadable Pariner, Ocki, 20-1 Sharp Deed, 33-1 others

#### 4.00 RAPIDE MORTGAGES ELITE CARE HANOICAP HURDLE (£2,495: 3m 3f) (14)

1 6246 LEAD WOCALIST 41 (F.6.S) R Rows (G-11-12 ... 6 Femon 2 2319 MAZZARO 18 (B.S) W G M Itunes (D-11-5 ... J Power (7) 3 2023 HONEY MOUNT 22 (ZD.) R ALIGN B-11-4 ... A Threston 5 250 CYPRESS AVENUE 26 (F.G) MP 12 9-11-4 ... R Greene 5 250 CYPRESS AVENUE 26 (F.G) MR 12 Ward 7-11-2 ... R Thermton 7 P-FD APACHEE R.DWER (83 (D.F.G.S) H Hone 9-10-8 LI A REQUESTA PLANCAL (19 (F.G.) 10 P-FD APACHEE R.DWER (83 (D.F.G.S) H Hone 9-10-8 LI A REQUESTA PLANCAL (19 (F.G.) D GRIEN 7-10-7 ... A P McCov 9 2214 BLUE BLAZER 17 (S) R ROCK 9-10-7 ... J Frost 10 S6P5 DERRA GLEU 18 N Invision Devel 5-10-7 ... A R N Ferbly (7) 12 HOPA MORTHERN VILLAGE 14 (C.F.) L A Boze 12-10-4 ... G Allen (7) 13 SPP WHISTILING RUFUS 30 N WIGHON-DEWES 7-10-2 J Goldstein (3) 14 2URU CHEEKY CHARLIE 33 (G) R HOME 7-10-0 ... J R RAWANAGA 1-2 Salaman, 9-2 Honey Moont, 6-1 Royal Piper, 7-1 Cypress, Azenue, 8-1 Pal-osanio, Blue Blaze, 12-1 Lead Vocalist, 14-1 offies

#### 4.30 RAPIDE MORTGAGE SERVICES AND CORNHILL LIFE NOVICES CHASE

(£2,868: 3m 2t 110yd) (10) 1 3P12 CHEROKEE BOY 17 (CD.F.G.S) 8 Pixell 7-11-8
2 01222 WOODLANDS BEAU 34 (F.G.S) 8 Ame 7-11-8
3 1306 9/48 DEL QUAYTRO 19 (V.CD.G) J Medine 7-11-3
3 1306 9/48 DEL QUAYTRO 19 (V.CD.G) J Medine 7-11-3
4 1306 9/48 DEL QUAYTRO 19 (V.CD.G) J Medine 7-11-3
5 /50P CEANNAIRE 10M (8) P Williamoris 9-11-2
5 /50P CEANNAIRE 10M 22 J King 9-11-2
6 443P CLAYMORE LAD 22 J King 9-11-2
7 65PP LURRIGA GUITTER 9 R J Sman 11-11-2
1 PSPO AMBGER RING 15 Miss & George 6-10-1
1 PSPO AMBGER RING 15 Miss & George 6-10-1
3 Massey
9 00F HEIDIGUEEROFCLIBS 51 N Twiston-Danes 8-10-11
J Goldstein (3) J Goldstein (3)
10 PP34 STRATION FLYER 17 H Home 9-10-11 . . . R Widger (5) 5-4 Woodlands Beau, 7-2 Cherolet Boy, 9-2 Blown Wine, 8-1 Viz Del Custro, 16-1 Claymore Lad. Luniga Gitter, 20-1 Straton Fiver, 25-1 others

#### 5.00 LAMBOURN STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (£1,567: 2m 2f 110yd) (18)

11-8 Liniyan, 3-1 fam Cobbies, 11-2 Lord Optimist, 13-2 Dealer's Choice, 14-1 River Gold, 16-1 Fiving Bye. 20-1 Ray Source, 25-1 Crossy, Kittenlett, 33-1 others.

#### Perth inspect again

PERTH is hopeful that today's meeting will go ahead after the course passed an inspection yesterday lunchtime. A further inspection will be held at 7.15 this morning. Yesterday's meeting was called off because of waterlogging. Clerk of the course Sam Morshead said: "We are hopeful, but it's a nasty forecast."





## GOLF it's the CHALLENGE

4 steps to La Manga....



Consequences VIIII

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LEWIS S. SER THROWS THE TEN Sermi Francis S

Les Links of exhibited th EAGUE POP A BOND CENTRE POP

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A 207.2



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GOLF

Olazabal

given a

vintage

welcome

FROM MEL WEBB

IN BARCELONA

the Masters; ten days on, he admit-

ted that he was still enjoying his

from King Juan Carlos and there

The pain that Olazabal suffered

times when he feared he might not be able to walk again.

"This was a very special victory for me, because of what I'd been

through, but also because I proved

I still have the game to be a force in

Now he knew, too, how sporting Spain regarded him. "I have not had much time to myself," he said. "It's going to be difficult focusing

for the next few weeks, but it is a price we are prepared to pay." For all those reasons Olazabal will

have his work cut out this week.

Nick Faldo will be trying to jump-

start his Ryder Cup campaign. Bernhard Langer is playing and there are a host of bright young fel-

lows who will be doing their

darnedest to bring them down.
None of them is brighter, or

younger, than Sergio Garcia, who

after a brilliant amateur career is

playing his first event as a profes-

sional, Garcia, 19, followed Olazá-

bal into the conference room and

impressed with his dignity. Only

one cavil — why on earth did his

advisers make him wear a suit? He

is a professional golfer, after all,

and it would all have been much

more convincing had he dressed like one. Instead, he looked more

like a trainee quantity surveyor.

the world of golf," he said.

## Chelsea seeking final vindication

FROM KEVIN MCCARRA IN PALMA

THE season does not end on a single day. In their minds, at least, clubs take their leave of it at different moments and in a variety of moods. This evening, Chelsea attempt to postpone the conclusion of their own tale. Having already drawn 1-1 at Stamford Bridge, their defence of the Cup Winners' Cup could come to a halt against Real Mallorca at the semi-final stage.

s Pierson

The challenge is to resist acquiescence when the insidious feeling could so easily steal over them that all their efforts are to be denied reward. The gradual subsidence of their bid for the FA Carling Premiership saw them concede two late goals to Leicester City and so share the points on Sunday. "Manchester United are not the best team in the country." Frank Leboeuf, the centre back, said, "but they will win the championship."

Conflicting emotions were present in that sentence. The implied pride in Chelsea rubbed shoulders with dejection. That same ambivalence eddied around the statement of Gianluca Vialli, the playermanager. "I do not think you

REAL MALLORCA (probable: 4-4-2)

1 Otalizola Marcellos 6 Siviero III Soler

Lauren Albagaza VEngonga VPaunov

Ede Grey

A Ferrer M Designy Plantoad/ G Le Saus

D Petresqui D Wise & d Marker & Poref

COVAR 6200

Kick off: 8.00

RADIO: Radio 5 Live: Match commentary (8.00)

TV: BBC1 - Live coverage (7.45pm)

WEBSITE: www.chelseafc.co.uk

are successful only if you get silverware," he said. "This has been a positive, exciting sea-son. We are reasonably happy about our performances and results, but there are things to improve."

It was as if a verdict had already been delivered, but, in reality, the closing arguments are still to be heard. The match this evening could find in favour of Chelsea and in terms of talent there are no grounds for fatalism. In the past two seasons. Chelsea have scored in each of their away matches in the competition and to open the scoring would be a thunderous blow to a Mallorca team whose selfbelief derives from effective defending. "We are good enough to look at the match with confidence," Vialli said. It is up to Chelsea to give a

performance in which that conviction is fleshed out. The flesh, however, could be the problem. Hector Cuper, the Mallorca coach, keeps the grass long and the diameters of the pitch to a minimum at the Luis Sitjar stadium. His purpose is to create a congested, exhausting arena. "No-

times handicaps them. Given the position after the first leg, adventurousness is essectial if they are to reach the final at Villa Park and, in all likelihood, meet Lazio. Having agreed a new three-year contract, which he will sign in June, Lebocuf was full of passion for Chelsea and wished to minimise the controversy over his financial demands.

Few members of the Chel-

sea squad are inclined to boast

of their condition, least of all

Leboeut, who spent most of last summer with the France

squad that won the World

Cup. The programme is tak-

ing its toll and he has com-plained to the Professional

Footballers' Association (PFA)

and the FA. "It's impossible to

expect a player to take part in

50 games a season," he said. Against Leicester, I was

ashamed that in the last 20 minutes I couldn't run. People

in the stands had paid a lot of money, but I couldn't give eve-

rything. It wasn't all my fault. The PFA say they will try to

help, but it's about money and

television want more and more games. My body is get-ting fed-up with football."

into action tonight, when the thwarting of Dani, who scored

Mallorca's goal a fortnight

ago, will be a key objective. Chelsea also need to be more

direct in attack if they are to

shake off a staidness that some-

His limbs have to be coaxed

I got letters from fans saying that I was burgling the club," he said. "How can they say that when they see me giving my body and my beart for the club? I would give my life for Chelsea." A fierce match with Mallorca will call for sacrifices, but not, one trusts, on



Rusedski prepares to deliver one of his service missiles in Monte Carlo yesterday, but they held no terrors for Novak

## Rusedski's abject form makes for an Open and shut case

DESPITE the history, despite the money, everything is not quite what it seems at the Monte Carlo Country Club. For a start, the club is not actually in Monte Carlo, but just over the border in France. Strapped for acreage, the principality rents the land from its neighbours to provide room for a posh club to stage tennis tournaments. It does the same for the Monte Carlo Golf Club and, as for the Moote Carlo Beach resort, it is on French land, too. Even Karl Lagerfeld's imposing residence, overlooking the tennis courts and the Mediterranean, is on permanent lease from the authorities and is, in effect, a very flash council

house\_ Greg Rusedski, too, was not quitewhat he seemed as he took to the courts for the first time. On a grey day of rain delays and constant drizzle, the No 8 seed was kept waiting until late afternoon to begin his second-round match with Jiri Novak and then played like a world No 62. At least the match was quick, lasting a mere 56 minutes, but it was the only speedy thing around on a distinctly sluggish day. The clay courts, which are slow on a bright day, had almost ground to a halt in the damp conditions and Rusedski knew that his

The crowd, such as it was, was not exactly enthralled, either. An endless

effort. I embarrass myself on some From Alix Ramsay Tennis Correspondent in Monte Carlo

exit, while the man with the pipe appeared to be smoking a small bonfire. The smoke may have obscured his view, but at least the fire kept him warm. Still, those who stayed were on Rusedski's side, mainly because they had not heard of Novak.

Coming through the qualifying com-petition. Novak already had a few matches under his belt and was more than accustomed to the conditions. He is a tall, clean-cut sort of chap with pink cheeks and neat shorts and the only point worth noting is that his legs do not match, the right being considerably thinner than the left. As for his tennis, all he wait for Rusedski to come to grief, which

he did with stunning regularity. Not that Rusedski imagined that it would be any different. "If anyone puts money on me to win the French Open, they should be shot," he said, looking remarkably cheerful. "But what do I have to lose? These are the weeks where I am not expected to win and I might as well give them a chance.

"At least I go out there and give it an

FOOTBALL

division: Suton Coldried v Hindsley.
UNHSCHO LEAGUE: Prenier division:
Legh v Runcom First division: Burscough
v Radciffe, Hucknell v Hanogate, Sixtsbracker witten. Untille first division Cup:
First: Droytsden v Ashton Utd.
NYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Hendon v Harow. Chesham v Bronley (7.45);
SI Albarts v Dulweh (7.45). First division:
Lestherhead v Wealdstone, Romind v Worhing, Second division: Windsor and Econ
v Bracknell. Third division: Epsom and
Seet v Clariton.

EWEN V CROSON. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First

AVUN MISUPIANCE CONTINUE (2.0).
PONTINE'S LEAGUE: Premiter strikators
Erminghain v Derby (ist Hednestord, 7 15).
Manchester United v Liverpool (7 0). Hrat
divisions Menchester City v Pon Vale (7 0).
Transmee v Shaffield Wednesday (7.15)
LEAGUE OF WALES: Conneh's Ouav v
Rancos City.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Corren's Outs v
Bargor City.
FAI HARP NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier
division: Dundelk v UCD (7 45)
SCHWEPPES ESSEX SERBOR LEAGUE:
Premier division: Stersed v Bower Uid
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE:
Premier division: Crencester Academy v
Higheoffit, Snotwood v Barbury
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE:
First division: Morped v West Auckland
SCREWFIX DIPECT LEAGUE: Premier
division: Bridgealer v Crupperham
MRIEFIVA SPARTAN SOUTH MRDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Hillogich Borough v Buchunghum Affelic,
New Bradwel SI Pater v Russip Manor
BANKETS BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier
division: Gomei v Star Lye v Kungon; Welsait Wood v Ludow, Westhelds v Etingshall
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES
LEAGUE: Premier division: Loweston v
Newmerket

Nick-off 7.30 unless stated

Semi-finals, second leg

Nationwide Conference

Cusp Winners' Cup

occasions, I look good on others. I can't get any worse, but I think I can get better." With that, he was off, safe in the knowledge that another week of his clay-court sentence had been crossed off the calendar.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov has been going through his own form of purgatory over the past few weeks. Since he came within touching distance of the No 1 ranking. he has been falling apart at the seams. Yesterday was one of his more startling performances, losing to the little-known but often mispronounced Ivan Ljubicic. from Croatia, 6-1, 6-2

At least one seed lived up to his billing. Mark Philippoussis, the No 5 seed, came through 7-6, 6-4 against Ramon Delgado, of Paraguay. Not one of the game's greatest thinkers, bis answer to the vagaries of clay-court tennis was simple.

"All I want for myself is each match I dred per cent commitment of myself out there and just try as hard as I can for each match."

If it was that simple, why could he not have let Rusedski in on the secret? LINKS



Well-suited: Garcia dressed up for his first day at the office

#### Newcastle lack basic essentials ture end. It has, however, all

Newcastle United .... Coventry City....

BY GEORGE CAULKIN -

THERE is a general consensus when it comes to construction, whether the edifice in question be a building or a football club, that it is usually wise to begin with the foundations. The single most damning feature of Newcastle United's re-emergence this decade is that the reverse is the case.

Even though this lopsided semii-final, first leg of The Times FA Youth Cup hardly provides the most convincing evidence, there are, finally, positive signs of progression.



Jamie McClen and David Beharall bave both made the transition from youth to first

team recently Potentially, more could follow. Steve Caldwell, like Beharall a central defender, was one of the better players on view at St James' Park yesterday, until a rudimentary challenge oo the outstanding Coventry City forward, Gary McSheffrey - the scorer of a graceful hat-trick - brought

his participation to a prema-

but ensured a serene progression to the final for Coventry. where West Ham United — who defeated the holders, Everton, 3-0 on Tuesday night probably await. Craig Strachan, a carrot-

FOR THE RECORD

topped replica of his father. Gordon, the Coventry manager, added a fourth goal in injury time. lo every sense, Newcastle are playing catch-up. NEWCASTLE UNITED (3-4-3 | Meron — Marris, S Caldwid, G Caldwid — O Cun-migham, B Kerr, S Green (sub. G Hogg. Swinin — J Coppinger, O McMahon, A Walker

Votes

COVENTRY CITY (4-4-2). A Mehmet — R

Batts, T Cudworth, M Burrows, O Hell — M

Lewis (sub. 8 Ford, 66mm), O Doyle (sub. N

Thompson, 46mm), C Pead (sub. C Strachen, 57mm), S McPhee — G McShefrey, C

Enbenne.

number was up from the beginning. stream of young children headed for the

#### Eurosport, 9.30am-5pm (Live)

**TODAY'S FIXTURES** 

SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Kent HOVE: Sussex v Northamptonshire HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire v 11.0. thed day of lour,

11 30, second day of three FENNER'S: Cambridge University

V CSSER

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Third day of four: Chester-le-Street: Durham v Northemptonshire: Cantierbury: Karli v Somerset Trent Bridge: Notinghamshire v Middlesex. Second day of three: Cardiff: Glemongan v Essex. Brisish: Gloucestershire v Wolcestershire.

OTHER SPORT GOLF: Scottish women's strokeplay fat Troon)

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Covelland 5 Oak-land 1: Detroit 0 Boston 1, Tampa Bey 5 Ball-mora 3, Torono 5 Anahem 1, New York Yan-laen 4 Toras 0, Chicago White Sox 3 Seattle 1; Nancas Cry 7 Minnesota 8 (13 ms) 1; Kancas Cry 7 Minnesota 8 (13mms) MATIONAL, LEAGUE: Cincinnali 2 New York Mets 3; Miwaukee 3 St Louis 8, Chica-go Cubs 4 Houston 10, Anzona 8 Philadel phia 1, San Francesco 2 Florida 7; San Diego 3 Phisburgh 7 (10ms), Los Angeles 5 Atlan-ta 4 Postpomed: Colorado v Montreal

BASEBALL

BASKETBALL

21501

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Toronto B1 Atlanta 103, Utah 83 San Anfonio 83, Chicago 83 Washington 77, Dallar 104, Phoenia 100; Mahasukee 95 Orlando 81, Colden Safet 102 Los Angeles Lakers 106 (OT) Postponed: Deriver v Portland

CRICKET

PPP COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: No play: First day of four: Southempton: Hampshire v Karl. Second day of four: Derby: Derbysine v Glaringan Leleaster: Lecesserier v Notinghamshire Lord's: Middle-sie, v Lancashire, Worosster: Worossteriev Sammy. Third day of four: Edglesster v Sammy. Third day of four: Edglesster v Sammy. Third day of four: Edglesster v Sammy. Third day of the country o

CYCLING

BRAISSELS: Encout Grand Priz (201km)

1. J Bilevers (Neth, TVM) 4hr 35min, 2. E. Zobel (Ger), 3. T Hollman (Neth) 4. R Grabatt (Ger), 5. J Planckaeri (Ber), 6. J Salova (Lah ali al same rime

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: Third division: Postponed: Swansea v Cambridge Utd THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Semi-finel, first log: Newcestle Utd 0 Coverity Cry 4

FOOTBALL

Tuesday's late results

UEFA CUP: Somi-finals, second leg: Bo-logne 1 Marselles 1 (1-1 on agg: Marselles wnron awey goal rure). Parma 2 Albaco Ma-dnd 1 (Parma win 5-2 on agg) FA CARLING PREMIERISHIP: Charlion 1

FA CAPLING PREMIERSHIP: Chemion 1
Totterham 4
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE; First division:
Birmingham 1 CPR 0; Girnsty 1 Shell Uid
2: Ipswich 1 Sockpot 0 Norwich 2 Belton
2: Second division: Chesterfield 0 Bristol
Rovers 0; Preston 1 Welsell 0; Wretham 2;
Gülingham 1; Third division: Shrewsbury 2
Rotherham 3
NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE: Chetenham 1 Forest Green 1; Rushden and Damonds 0 Kingstonan 0
BANK OF SCOTLAND SCOTTSH PREMIER LEAGUE: Dundes Uid 0 St. Johnston 1

BANK DF SCOTLAND SCOTTSH PREMIER LEAGUE: Dundse Uid O S. Johnstone 1
ENDSLEIGH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Finel, first leg: Famborough 0 Doncaster 1
THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Serel-final,
first leg: West Harn 3 Everion 0
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premiter division:
Aylesbury 0 Helytonigo 1. Bishop's Stortlord
0 Bascrigstoke D. St Alberts 4 Bromley 1.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premiter division:
Byth Spartans 4 Guiseley 1, Runcom 2
Spannymoor D. Stalytonigo 1 Colwyn Bay 0
DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premiter division:
Beth Cay 8 Boston Uid 0; Cambridge
City 1 Weymouth 0 Rothwell 2 Atherstone
0, Tamworth 3 Crawley Town 1
LEAGUE OF WALLES: Comenh's Ouay 8
Rityl 2: Nowlown 2 Conwy 1; Rhayeder 0
Bangor Cay 0
Bangor Cay 0
Bans FREH CUP: Semi-final replay: Citicriville 1 Linfeld 0.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: First division: Coventry 7 Wolverhempton 0
AVON #SURANCE COMEDIATION:
First division: Southampton 5 Milwell 2.
Barnet 1 Ponsmouth 6.

MOTOR RALLYING LLORET DE MAR, Spain: Catalonia Raily: Final positions: 1, P Bugassis (Fr. Carrein Xsara) 4th 13mm 45 fasec 2, O Aunol (Fr. Toyota Corolati et 31 8sec, 3, T Malon et (Fr. Toyota Corolati et 31 8sec, 3, T Malon et (Fr. Toyota Corolati et 31 8sec, 4, S R Burns (SB. Suberu hupreza) 4 01.9, 6, J Kankkunen (Fin Suberu Impreza) 4 47.3, 7, B They (Bel, Suberu 15.01.3, 8, 0 Gomez (Sp. Renault Mégane) 5 48.7, 9, C Sanz (Sp. Toyota Corolat) 6,20.0, 10, L Clement (Sp. Suberu Impreza) 6:28 8. World champlonship positione: Drivens: 1, Makmen 28;08, 2, Aurol 23, 3, C MoRee (GB) 20, 4, C Sanz. (Sp.) 16, 5, Bugsishi 10, Karidonen B 7, Buns 7, Continuebras 1, Toyota 44; 2, Missubshi 32; 3, Ford 26.

**REAL TENNIS** 

HAMPTON COURT: Guy Sainton wom-en's world championship: Second round (Great Britan unless stated) P Lurriey bt 8 Sabbag (US) 6-1, 6-9; S Jones bt P Wisson 6-0, 6-0 S Melmerel wo K Leerang (Aus)

**RUGBY LEAGUE** NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Post-poned: Oldham + Featherstone

RUGBY UNION

WEI SH LEASUR: Premier division play-offs: Group A: Ebbe Vale 36 Portypiold 23 Group B: Postpood: Abervon / Carryby, Brogged v Rewort ANGLO-WELSH CLUB MATCH: Swen-sea 46 Bedfold 31 BELLINO, Italy: Women's European championship: First round: England 91 The Netherlands 3

SAILING

HYERES, France: Olympic Classes Regatia (site fourth day! A70 woman (site fourth day! A70 woman (site eight races). 1, S Yedm; and A Fabrikani (shi 45pts, 2, N Ya Duhesene and S Ason (Sp) 47, 3, S Trubel and C Grosser (Ge) 49 Soling (after seven races): 1, S Protugin, V Korothova and S Trinklov (Ukr 17, 2, R Henner, O de Rodder and H Blekskpar (Neby) 18, 3, 15 thuserian il Bortowska and GBahr (Ge) 18 Europe (after 10 races): 1, M Macthysse (Neby) 10, 2 S Mutala (Fir) 23: 3, C Brouwer (Neby) 42 Toronado class (after sox races): 1, R Hagara and H P Sternachter (Aus) 17, 3, O Bundock and J Forbes (Aus): 12, Illistral woman (after seven races): 1, A Senson (b): 13 2, F Menret (Fi): 13, 3, Libe Shami (HK): 19 Middent ment (after race races): 1, J Anches Manciel (Spi: 16, 2, T Philip (Fil): 17, 3, J Rodropus (Por): 21 Final letter septi races): 1, M Kusnarwaz (Pol): 22, 2, L Devoti (i): 43, 3, S Godefond (Gel): 55, Lasser (after 10 races): 1, M Grabowski

(Pol) 20: 2, K Suneson (Swe) 24: 3, M Blade-burn (Aus) 29: 470 men (altar 10 races). 1, P Forester and B Memok (US) 13: 2, P Ga-des and T Guy (F) 22, 3, M Koch and S Thouerkaut (Ger) 39

SHOOTING

BLOEMFONTERS: World individual chemplonshipe: 700m: 1, R Rush (Aus.) 150.14; 2, K Renve (US) 150.14; 3, P Petros (Aus.) 150.14; 800m: 1, A Luckmen (GB) 150.10; 2, G Ubl (US) 150.7; 3, M Maxberry 150.7; 900m: 1, E Pritard (US) 148.8; 2, S Dunstall (Aus.) 149.2; 3, E Chassen (SA) 148.6; Landing overall positions (after lirst round). 1, Classeen 446.20; 2, J ven Rooyen (SA) 448.0; 3, Dunstall 446.15; British placings: 16, S Colings: 441.19; 26, A Briger: 440.15.

SNOOKER

THE CRUCIBLE, Sheffield: Embassy world championship: First round: N Wilson (Wate) in McCulloch (Engl.) 10-4. J Pary (Engl. for S Davs (Engl. 10-9. S Hendry (Soci) bi P Hurrer (Engl.) 10-8. Latest postore: J White (Engl.) leads A McMarus (Soci) 5-4. S Lee (Engl.) leads J Lardner (Soci) 7-2.

SQUASH

SRA MATIONAL LEAGUE: Final (a) SI Albara) Capital One Motingham 4 UK Peckaging 1 (Capital One Notingham 15-15, 15-12, 15-6, 15-8, 0 Evers bt J Washings 15-11, 10-15, 15-7, 15-6; L Beachil bt S Cowe 15-12, 15-7, 15-5, J Nocode bt L Jertmett 15-9, 15-7, 15-5, T Basky lost to L Charman 9-4, 3-9, 6-10, 1-9)

TENNIS

MONTE CARLO OPEN: Second round: F Clavet (Sp) bit T Erquist (Swe) 8-2, 6-0; H Arap (Mor) bit M Puerta (Arg) 8-1, 6-4; G Kuerten (Bp) bit B Uthrach (C) 8-7, 6-2, 6-4; M Philippouses (Aus) bit R Delgado (Par) 7-6, 8-4, A D Procquist (Fr) bit V Santopadre (I) 6-3, 7-6, J Novek (C2) bit G Russcho (GB) 6-2, 6-2, A Coest (Sp) bit J van Lorium (Neth) 6-2, 6-3; K Alami (Mor) bit T Muster (Austra) 6-3, 6-3, Liquideo (Cro) bit Y Kafein-Rov (Russ) 6-1, 6-2, S Grospean (Fr) bit 7 Heas (Ger) 7-6, 8-2

JEWSON SOUTH WESTERN LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Famoush v Torpoint UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTES LEAGUE Premier division: Cogenhoe v SI Neots

LEAGUE: Premier deviation: Cognitice VS Nexts
RNTERLIBN ROPHESS ALLIANCE:
ROCKET V OKCUTY, Invitation Cup: Somifinal: Atherstore v Brightorit.
NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE:
ROOM! Trophy: Pinal: Kidsprive Athetic
v Citheroe CRICKET CRICKET DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier divi-sion: Cambridge Cay v Beth: Southern division: Rounds v Folkestone Midfend division: Suppn Coldfield v Hindsley.

PPP county championship 11 0, second day of lour, 104 overs minimum.

DERBY: Derbyshke v Glamorgan LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Nothinghamshire LORD'S: Middlesex v Lancashire WORCESTER: Worcestershire v 11 0, final day of lour, 96 overs minimum

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v

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(Maintenant part of the Ower Transity)

\*Free bet is a £10 Correct Scora bet on tonight's Mailtorca v
Chelses match. (Please place your bet and make your free
bet selection within the same call.) MALLORCA .... CHELSEA 28/1 .....VIALLI (C) ......C. LOPEZ (M) .....IBAGAZA (M) WARD,.... ..... 22/1 10/1 \_\_\_\_POYET (C)
14/1 \_\_\_\_DI MATTEO (C)
20/1 \_\_\_\_LEROEUF (C)
11/2 \_\_\_\_NO GOALSCORER DRAW ..... CHELSEA 5/1 CHELSEA ..... MALLORCA ZBM .....11/2 14/1 CHELSEA ..... DRAW CHELSEA ...... CHELSEA 10/3 Bars void if match not completed.

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#### At 42, Scott aims to break sub-four minute mile barrier

## Oldest kid on track is running towards finish line

**BRYANT'S** 

are the cruellest opponents in sport enough to try to outrun them wins admiration even if he looks certain to lose.

And win or lose, they don't come any braver than Steve Scon. This week, the track world has been fascinated by pre-event publicity from the Drake Relays meeting in Des Moines, lowa, According to reports, this Saturday, just a couple of weeks before his 43rd birthday, Scon will attempt to become the oldest athlete to break four minutes for the mile.

Scott, of all people, should know what he is taking on. He first broke that barrier as long ago as January 1977 in Los Angeles and since then he has run

sub-four minute miles more than any other man in track history.

Throughout the 1980s he haunted the commercial circus of grand prix races in Europe and America, living out of a suitcase and thrashing out top-class miles. His opponents included such legends as Sebastian Coe. Steve Ovett and Steve Cram. as well as John Walker, the great New Zealander, his frequent sparring partner and the first man to run under 3min 50sec.

Scott ran his last sub-four minute mile back where he had started, in Los Angeles, at 37, in 1993. By then he was already dreaming of cracking the barrier when he was past the age of 40.

That prize was snatched from him when Eamonn Coghlan, the Irishman, ran 3:58:15 in 1994 at the age of 41 on an indoor track in Boston. The sub-four by a veteran has still not been achieved outdoors. where the record is 4:02:53. held by Dave Moorcroft, who was 40 when he ran it.

Within weeks of Coghlan's record. Scott's phenomenal ability was overtaken by an opponent far more threatenpulled on spikes — he was struck by cancer.

Scott was diagnosed with testicular cancer in April 1994 and opted to undergo surgery in May. He rejected chemotherapy because he feared it might damage his lungs and he soll hoped to keep running.

After Eamonn Coghlan broke four minutes in March of 94, 1 more or less retired," Scott said. "I thought there was nothing really left. But when I came down with cancer the four-minute mile became my focal point. Earnonn might be the first to break it, but I could be the first to break four minutes who's survivor."

> Scott sumed training three months after his surgery. still dreaming one more sub-four minute umph. "In a lifetime of running

I had learnt to face pain," he said in his biography, 'I got ready to face the pain of cancer. I ran through the whole picture in my mind. Whatever my thoughts, running sub-four at 40 always popped up as well. I would not let go of my running goals. My life depended on that, too." Twenty years ago exactly,

Scott was the first to break the four-minute mark at the Drake Relays with 3:55:26. He had shown up the year before with the intention of setting the record, but woke up on the day of the race with a tempera-ture of 103. He vowed he would return and crack the mark. He did it in style.

This time he is more cautious. "No promises," he said. "I cannot break four minutes whenever I want to now. think I have a reasonable chance at this point. It would be kind of a storybook ending to come back 20 years later and achieve it there. It would

The sad truth, however, is that there is unlikely to be a fairytale ending to the Steve Scott story this weekend. His most recent race was at 5,000



Even when he was fighting cancer, Scott was dreaming of the day when he would be back on the track trying to add to his world record of 136 sub-four minute miles

metres at Carlsbad, California, where he ran 14min 30sec - not really an indication of four-minute speed.

minor strain in his calf muscle and the injury training properly for nine days.

It was April 10 before he could run freely again and he is still

not back to anything like his peak form.

"At 23," he said, "you can recover your fitness in a week, but at 43 it takes two or three weeks and it's not there yet."

So he is likely to have a tough time when he lines up for the mile on Saturday, when his competition will include Paul Then a couple of days later, on March 31, Scott suffered a miler, who won the race last

being able to test myself'

But Scott never gives up. If

he fails this weekend he plans

to find another race in late

May. "I could never live with-

out testing myself," he once

said, "and after a quarter-cen-

tury of taking the starting line. I'm not ready to hang up my spikes yet. I still feel like Scot-tie the Miler, a kid at heart." This 42-year-old kid has already outkicked cancer and

enough done training to give 'I could never live without the himself na to outrun time itself. So

who knows, if he can shake off his calf injury, maybe there is just one more sub-four minute mile to be squeezed out of the ageing and battered body of Scottie the Amazing Miler.

JOHN BRYANT

#### Whitaker aims to buck World Cup odds again JOHN WHITAKER, winner

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**EQUESTRIANISM** of the showjumping World Cup in 1990 and 1991, is "quiet-From Jenny MacArthur in Gothenburg

ly confident" about his chances for the event that begins today in the Scandanavium arena here. Whitaker, 43, the only rider to have qualified for every final since the competition began in 1979. and Michael, his younger brother, are the only Britons among the 42 riders from 20 nations

who have qualified this year. While not one of the favouriles — that honour is shared by Ludger Beerbaum, of Germany. the European champion, and Rodrigo Pessoa, of Brazil, the world champion and holder of the World Cup - John Whitaker comes to the final with two in-form horses, Virtual Village Grannusch, on which, against considerable odds, he won the first two legs of the final in Helsinki last year, and Heyman, on which, in similar circumstances, he won the first round of the world championships in

Rome last October. Grannusch is now 20. but Whitaker will rely on him again for the opening speed leg of the three-part final tonight. Traditionally, riders must finish in the top len in this leg to have any chance of

"He's a touch on the fat side but feels very good." Whitaker said. "I've kepl him fresh and only jumped him at two local shows this year." He has the advantage of being drawn 31st in contrast to last year.

when he was first to go. Whitaker will then switch to Heyman for the bigger second and third legs tomorrow evening and on Sunday afternoon. Although the ten-yearold gelding, on which he was runner-up to Trevor Coyle.

in the Dortmund Grand Prix last week, had a back pole down at the penultimate oxer in the training competition yesterday. Whitaker was unde-terred. "I was just using it to train a little bit and Heyman was having a good look," he said. "He can get a bil erratic. but if he jumps as well as he did in Dortmund we should be all right."

the Irish rider, and Cruising

Michael Whitaker has yet to improve on his third place in the 1994 final. He intends to ride Virtual Village Ashley, on which he was third in the Olympia World Cup qualifier, in all three legs. "He feels good and he's a fairly levelheaded horse," he said. "I just hope I get off to a good start." Beerbaum and Pessoa were

both in buoyant mood yester-

day. Beerbaum declared that Ratina, the mare on which he won the World Cup in 1993 and an Olympic team gold medal in 1996, felt "as good as ever". Pessoa, 26, who became the first rider to win the World Cup and world championships last year, is equally satisfied with Gandini Baloubet du Rouet, his French-bred stallion.

Other leading contenders include Coyle, who has had a superb season with Cruising, winning both the Millstreet and Geneva qualifiers, and Peter Charles, his compatriot, with Traxdata Carnavelley. winners of the Berlin Grand Prix last November.

Switzerland has chances with Willi Melliger, on Calvaro, his 1996 Olympic silver medal-winner, and Beal Mandli. on Positano, runners-up in the Dortmund qualifier last week. With the United States fielding a ten-strong team. including Leslie Howard, the winner in 1986, the stage is set for an enthralling contest.

#### **WORD-WATCHING**

Answers from page 49 FLEECH

(a) Flattery: a piece of flattery. Of obscure origin, but at any rate it is musty Teutonic.

(a) A small flag. Of obscure origin. The sense would suggest identity with the French guidon. "Every baronet shall have his banner displayed in ye field if he be chief captain, every knight his penon, every squire or gentleman his gelon or standard. A streamer shall be slyt & so shall a standard as well as a geton."

(c) A warehouse or store for goods, in India and other parts of Eastern Asia. Malay, supposed to be from the Telegu and Tamil words meaning a place where goods lie.

(c) A foolish or superficial person. A gossip or smatterer. **SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE** 1 ... Qxd2+! 2 Rxd2 ReI+ 3 Rd1 Rexd1 checkmale

TELEVISION CHOICE

## Love story on an epic scale.

Arena: Salman Rushdie and The Ground Beneath His Feet BBC2, 11.20pm

Rushdie's new novel. The Ground Beneath Her Feet, is a three-sided love story on an epic, mythic scale, moving across three decades and three continents. It has as its setting the world of pop music — a bold decision for a writer not generally associated with that world. But, as he reveals in an interprise with Empirical Stock it reflects his own interview with Francine Stock, it reflects his own life (he recalls first hearing and identifying with the earliest rock 'n' roll records and how being Indian was "cool" in Swinging Sixties London) and enables him to make the slory (a reworking of the myth of Orpheus and Eurydice) more directly involving to younger readers.

Aussie Birds: Pelican Island Channel 5, 7.30pm

There is nothing complicated about this series. running Monday to Friday this week, which tells the story, tonight, of the Australian variety of the pelican. It is, however, an extraordinary tale, since these graceful fliers and voracious fish-eaters are virtual fossil birds, the species having survived almost unchanged for millennia. Tomorrow: Soaring Hunters. The Australian little eagle.

BBC2, 7.30pm (England and Wales only)

A Tribute to Yehudi Menuhin

conducting the Philharmonia.

Radio 3, 7,30pm

Vivien Maxwell, a mother of five and a farmer's which waxwell, a mother of five and a fartner's wife living near Loch Lomond, surprised many when, as a student of interior design at the Glasgow School of Art, she won the Master's Medal at the Faculty of Royal Designers for Industry. As a result, she was offered a short-term contract in London with Rodney Fitch a commany contract in London with Rodney Fitch, a company specialising in retail shop and restaurant interiors. Although both sides seem to have given it their best shot, circumstances, the distance from home and the fact that she was not computer literate as a designer combined to make her experience less

than happy and she abandoned her contract without notice.

What better indicator could there be of the esteem in which Menuhin was held during his long life in music? This tribute to him in words and music eats

up almost the whole of tonight's Radio 3 schedules. If any facet of his contribution to 20th-century

music-making and philanthropy has been left out.
I can't detect it in the summary put out by the BBC.
Among the recordings we will hear are the second
movement of Menuhin's 1932 recording of Elgar's

Violin Concerto, with the composer conducting, and Mozart's Sinfonia Concertante, K364, with the

violinist partnering the viola virtuoso Rudolf Barshal. The climactic work is Menuhin playing the Beethoven Violin Concerto, with Furtwangler

Salman Rushdie discusses his latest novel in an Arena special (BBC2, 11.20om)

Channel 4, 9.30pm

A highly topical and appropriate programme, in which a family of four in Walsall are challenged to do without their two cars for a week. If the Government's declared intention to woo us away from our reliance on private cars is to mean anything, this is exactly what should be happening. Odd, perhaps, that a minority television channel, often pilloried for its irresponsible approach to broadcasting, is the first to do anything concrete about it.

Channel 4. 10pm

Simone is dead, long live the new kid on the block. No sooner has Jimmy Smits left the 15th Precinct than blond, boyish Rick Schroder is checking in to become the new partner for Sipowicz (Dennis Franz). Schroder, as Danny Sorenson, looks like a teenager but quickly proves worthy of the respect of his new team-mates, and tonight's story of a drive-by shooting and subsequent bloody revenge among drug-dealers sets up several ways in which he will interact with the existing company. A

I See the Moon

Radio 4, 2.15pm

in telling you about Alex Ferguson's down-to-earth ghost story. I must be very careful not to give the game away. So what can I write about I See the Moon without being a spoilsport? Firstly, I think. I can tell you that the town-planner storyteller, played by Cliff Howells, is as haunted as a grown-up as he was as a child. Secondly, the silent little girl whom he finds sitting at the top of a staircase in a rambling old house, is as near to staircase in a rambling old house, is as near to being a ghost as the spectral night-walker in Hamlet. Thirdly, the town-planner is a thorn in the side of the crooked development company who plan to put up executive housing where country houses once stood. And that, I'm afraid, is as far as I dare go.

BBC WORLD SERVICE

5.00em The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55 My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15 Insight 8.30 Assignment 9.00 World News 9.05 From Cur Own Correspondent 9.20 Off the Shelf- Frankenstein 9.35 The Works 10.00 World News 10.05 Understanding Cencer 10.20 Andy Kershaw's World of Music 10.50 Sports Round-Up 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Britain Today 11.45 World Business Report 12.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Britain Today 11.45 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.45 Sports Round-Up 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 1.05 The Worlds 3.30 Meridian Books 4.00 World News 4.05 Sports Round-Up 4.15 Westway 4.30 The Greenfield Collection 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Insight 6.00 Newdesk 6.30 Record News 6.45 Sports Round-Up 7.00 World News 1.15 Britain Today 7.30 Assignment 8.00 World News 8.05 The Works 8.30 Collee - A Hellish Brew 8.45 Off the Shelf: Frankenstein 9.00 Newshour 10.00 World News 10.05 World Business Report 10.20 Britain Today 10.30 Meridian Books 11.00 World News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 Bhies World 12.00 World News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 Bhies World 12.00 World News 12.05 m Outlook 12.45 Insight 1.00 The World Today 2.30 Westway 2.46 Performance 3.00 The World Today 2.30 Westway 2.45 Performance 3.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports Round-Up 4.30 The World Today

6.30am Zoe Balf 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whitey 3.00pm Chris Moyles 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce. The best in music 8.00 Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session, New music and session tracks 10.00 The Global Update. Jennifer Cox presents travel reports 10.10 John Peet. Musical treats 12.00 Andy Kershaw 2.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Scott Mills

RADIO 1 (BBC)

#### RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Serah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Waker 7.00 Bob Harris Country, With Sara Evans 9.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Take It Easy: California Coo! (5/6) 9.30 The News Huddines 10.00 Boogle Woogle with George Melly (1/6) 10.30 Lynn Parsons 12,00 Katrina Leskanich 3.00am Alex Laster

#### RADID 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Ian Payne 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Wembley, the Church of Footbell (3/4) 8.00 The Thursday Match. Real Mallorca v Chelsea, Cup Winners' Cup semi-final, second leg 10.00 Late Night Live, including

#### TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breaklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Justice With Jacobs 1.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 The Sports Zone 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray 9.00 Jackie Mason 10.00 James Whale 1.00am lan Collins

VIRGIN

## 6.30am The Breaklast Show 9.30 Mark Forrest 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Peta and Geoff 10.00 Gary Davies 1.00am Richard Allen 4.30 Phil Kennedy

6.00am Nick Balley's Easier Breaklest. A selection of rousing music to start the day 8.00 Henry Ketly. The Hell of Fame Hour and CD of the Week 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones ambient music 2.00am Concerto, Bocchenni [Cello Concerto No 5 in D ma(or) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths. Early Breaklast Show

CLASSIC FM

presents favourite music 2.00pm Concerto, Boccherni (Cello Concerto No 5 in D major) 3.00 Jamle Crick Continuous Classics and Alternoon Romance 6.30 Newsnight. The latest headlines and sport updates 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning Introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Enesso (Symphory No I in E fat major); Bartok (Concerto for Orchestra); Kodaly (Hary Janos Suite) 11.00 Mann at Night. A chance to wind down with the sound of contents with 9.00 September 1.00 Concerto.

Prodigy. Bernard Keefle explores Menuhin's early

years as a performer and recording artist; 8.20 Elgar (Violin Concerto, Op 61; Menuhin, LSO under Elgar); 8.35 The Commissioner. Lynne

#### 6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny with music and arts

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny with music and arts news, including a review of Michael Attenborough's production of Othello at the RSC 9.00 Masterworks Corelli (Concerto grosso in D, Op 8 No 4): Anon (Batalia tamossa); Scarlati (Sonatas in B minor, KK87; in F minor, KK386); Telemann (Overture-Suite in G, Burlesque de Don Quichotte): Antonio de Literes (Azis y Galatea, excerpta); Falla (Nights in the Gardens of Spain); Corelli (Concerto grosso in 8 flat, Op 8 No 5) 10.30 Artist of the Weelc Gwyneth Jones Joan Bakewell talks to Gwyneth Jones about her role as Brumrihide in Wagner's Ring cycle and her 17 consecutive years singing Wagner at Bayreuth

consecutive years singing Wagner at Bayreuth 11.00 Sound Stories: Five Great Rivers The Rhone 11.00 Sound Stories: Five Great Rivers The Rhone
12.00 Composer of the Weels: Stanford
1.00pm Tha Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Bernard Roberts, piano. Haydn (Sonata in E, H XVI 31); Schubert (Plano Sonata in D, D850) (r)
2.00 The 8BC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic, Tchaikovsky (Capnocio Italien, Overture, Romeo and Juliet): Borodin (Polovisian Dances, Prince Ind.). Off (Carming burgos):

Igor): Orfi (Carmina burane):

4.00 The Plano: The Diggy-Diggy-Dee School (r)

5.00 In Turne With Sean Ralferty. Music includes
Francaix (Octet) and Hummel (Trumpet Concerto

in E)
7.30 A Tribute to Menuthin See Choice 7.35 Bach.
Violin Concerto in E, BWV1042 Bath Festival
Orchestra under Menuhin, violin); 7.55 The

under Elgar); 8.35 The Commissioner. Lynne Walker examines the works commissioned by Menuhin; 8.55 Bartok (Sonata for Solo Violin, 1st mvt. Menuhin; 9.10 The Master Musician; 9.40 Mozart (Sinfonia concertante in E. flat, K364: Menuhin, violin, Rudolf Barsha; vola, Bath Festival Orchestra); 10.15 Beethoven (Piano Trio in D. Op 70 No 1, Ghost: Menuhin, violin, Maunce Gendron, cello, Hephzibah Menuhin, piano); 11.00 The Legacy; 11.15 Beethoven (Violin Concerto Op 61: Yehudi Menuhin, Philharmonia under Wilherm Furtwangler)

Concerto Op 61: Yehudi Menuhin, Philharmonia under Wilherm Furtwangler)

12.00 Through the Night Includes 12.05am Homeman (Overture, Aladdin), 12.15 Casteinuovo-Tedesco (Capricclo diabolico); 12.35 Tartini (Violin Concerto in D minor); 12.50 Handel (Tamenano), 1.00 Danish RCO, Sergei Terentyev, piano Beethoven, Mozart, Liszt; 2.00 Schubert (String Quartet in G, D887); 2.50 Biber (Sonata No 1 a 8); 3.00-4.30 Schoots: Music Workshop; 3.20 Let's Movel 3.40 Words Alivel 3.55 First Steps in Drama; 4.10 Listen and Write; 4.30 Tolvo Kunla (South Ostrobothnian Suite No 2); 4.50 Beethoven (Sonata for piano in F minor); 5.15 Lassus (In religione homo wint, motel); 5.25 Mozart (Hom Quintet in E flat major); 5.40 Schumann (Introduction and Allegro appassionato)

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast
5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day
5.47 Farming Today With Anna Hill
6.00 Today with Sue MecGregor and James Naughtle
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Partiament Political round-up
9.00 Metryn Bragg: In Our Time Guests join Metryn
Bragg to consider ideas and events which have
influenced the present one

influenced the present age

9.30 Blind Man on the Rampage New series. Peter
While's perspective on life without sight, exploring
the world through sound, touch, smell and the

help of others (1/5)

9.45 (FM) Serial: Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow
Adaptation of Jarome K. Jerome's tales of an
idler's approach to coping with everyday life

9.45 (LW) Daily Service

10.00 Woman's Hour Jenni Murray talks to actress
Fleanor Bron, Inchiving Diray of a Province Load

10.00 Worksma's Hour Jenni Murray talks to actress Eleanor Bron. Includes Diary of a Provincial Lady
11.00 Crossing Continents Nigerian villagers who have resorted to using traditional magic to light for a stake in local oiliselds
11.30 My Uncte Freddie By Alex Ferguson. Comedy set on Tyneside. charting the relationship between a boy and his uncle. Grandad Fergie is found dead and Lecky's lutura in Jamow is assured. With Shaun Prendergast and Gareth Brown. Last in series (6/6) if

12.00 (FM) News
12.00 (FM) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.04pm You and Yours With Liz Barclay and John
Waite 1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke

Waite 1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke
1.30 Open Country Richard Undge unearths tales
from the countryside of Essex
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: t See the Moon See Choice
3.00 Call You and Yours: 0870 010 0444
3.28 Appeal On behalf of the Bobby Moore Fund,
which promotes research into bowel cancer (r)

3.30 A Week at the Pftt Rivers Christina Hardyment 3.30 A trees at the First niveral children in adjusted look at the English longbow (4/5)
3.45 This Sceptred isle Nameded by Anna Massey (r)
4.00 Nice Work Alison Mitchell investigates the

changing world of employment
4.30 The idaterial World Computer chips

4.30 The Material World Computer chips
5.00 PM With Clare English
6.00 Sht O'Chock News
6.30 That Reminds Me Bill Pertwee looks back on his
regular contributions to Fladio 4 (4/6)
7.00 The Archers
7.15 Front Row Arts round-up, with Francine Stock
7.45 Diary of a Provincial Lady E.M. Delefield's
household in unal standing invelde Streeting and

household journal, starring Irnelde Staunton and Seskia Whickham (r)

8.00 The Khalsa Concluding part. Indurit Singh learns the concerns of modern Sikhs in their homes in India and latther about 10th. India and larther afield (2/2)

8.30 The Week in Westminster With Peler Riddel of

The Times

9.00 Connect How a computer program, used to track down serial killers, is being put to work by the British police Presented by Quentin Cooper

9.30 Melryn Bragg: In Our Tima (r)

10.00 The World Tonight With Robin Lustig

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Service of Clouds Joanna David reads part four of Susan Hill's ten-part drama The Times

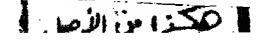
Joanna Leviu reaus part mon to ten-part drama

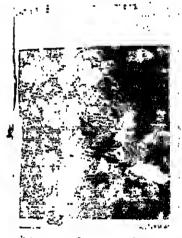
11.00 Late Night on 4: Do Go On Griff Rhys Jones, Graeme Garden and Melanie Hudson join Amsley Elliot in a satincal discussion on media absurdity.

11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
12.00 News

12.30am The Late Book: Biggest Elvis Written by P.F. Kluge and read by Ron Berglas 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 186; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693. 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, Ian Hughes, Gillian Maxey, Jane Gregory and Barry O'Keste





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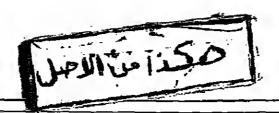
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## Potted history of BBC sport's last bastion

hen Luigi Barbarito, the Pope's emissary, found himself watching a spon-sored snooker championship at Tyburn convent about ten years ago, he confided to his hostesses that playing snooker gives you firm hands and helps to build up character, making it "the ideal recreation for dedicated nuns".

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Was Luigi making the point that a misspent youth needn't stop anyone getting into the habit? Or was he just making small talk? It's hard to tell. But maybe the BBC will enlighten us soon with a programme exploring the Vatican's historic links with snooker, because the BBC - having lost the rights to cover key sporting fixnures - is determined to milk every drop of TV time from those sports still in its grip.

Hence its recent golf coverage included special previews aimed at alerting dozy viewers to the immi-nent feast of TV golf, a game that attracts large audiences in spite of the fact that the only person with powerful enough eyesight to spot the ball once it has left the fee seems to be the commentator: everyone else looks up into the sky. apparently aping some ancient tribal custom, but they no more expect to catch sight of the little speck of white than they would expect to catch sight of Alastair

Campbell smiling at a journalist. So just in case there were any viewers out there who felt they were not getting sufficient snooker input from the BBC's dawn-todawn coverage of the World Championship at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, Leviathan (BBC2) came to the rescue with a potted history of the game. This turned out to be much more interesting than watching the snooker itself.

Snooker, it turns out, was invented a little over 100 years ago by a bored expatriate colonel in India. who devised the variations to the traditional game of billiards on a rainy afternoon in the Raj.

aybe every snooker fan already knows this. Maybe in the snooker halls of South London the patrons talk of nothing else but of how every time they go to pot the pink

they can't help recalling Diana

veeland's observation that pink is
the navy blue of India. But it was news to me that snooker began life as a godsend to jaded expats (not as a godseno to janed expais (not such a godseno, of course, to elephants, who suddenly found themselves having to provide enough tusks for sets of 22 ivory balls rather than for sets of just three as for billiants.

three, as for billiards). To those who have always found it amusing that the BBC once used to broadcast snooker on black and white television, it was even more startling to learn that before that the BBC actually broadcast ballby-ball coverage of snooker on REVIEW

Joe

Joseph



radio, which sounded so hilariously incomprehensible that the only person today who could pull off the job of a radio snooker commentator with any conviction would be

John Prescott. There's no reason why, of course, Prescott shouldn't continue his job as Deputy Prime Minister while moonlighting as a radio snooker commentator. Everyone moonlights nowadays.

Spin City (Channe) 4) returned for a genial third series last night starring not only Michael J. Fox as the deputy mayor of New York City, but also two of America's top chat show hosts. Conan O'Brien was moonlighting as a loony zookeeper, and David Letterman apparently provided the voice of

Rags, an ageing pooch belonging to one of the mayor's team. As for Mayor Randall Winston himself, the credits say that he's played by Barry Bostwick; but doesn't he look suspiciously like PR man Max Clifford? American actors and TV stars

seem desperate to perform cameos in hit sitcoms: many vaices on The Simpsons are provided by Hollywood stars. The same goes for callers to Frasier Crane's radio phone-in show on Frasier. Big names ached to guest on Friends. They queue up for a seat on Larry Sanders's sofa. Maybe it's the same motivation that makes

people want to show their face at a new, impossibly fashionable restaurant — just to show they have the clout to get past the velvet rope without begging.

ou half wonder if the trend is spreading here when you see The Naked Chef
(BBC2), because its hip, handsome star — Jamie Oliver — looks spookily like the late, famously womanising, racing driver James Hunt did at about the same age. Last night, this TV chef for the MTV generation was making supper for his sister's hen night. The food looked great, but by the time they'd got to the library. the liqueurs the girls decided to abandon Jamie and hit town in search of the real James Hunt.
And in The Pull of the City (BBC2), George Monbiot, the eloquent environmental campaigner,

looked astonishingly like a man weeing into the wind. In his docu-

mentary. London Pride, he was

es that help to fund more public spaces in London?

London house prices always been rising? What if it is precisely because of London's vibrant economy that all those ethnic and cultural minorioes were attracted to the capital in the first place
Monbiot wonders if it is paradoxical that Richard Rogers, who

aiming to show us that booming land prices are threatening London's vibrant social, economic

and cultural climate by making it

impossible for any but the very

rich to live in the city. But haven t

dreams of a London with more public spaces, is building an apartment complex on the Thames with £4 million penthouses. But what if the people who are lured to London by the availability of luxury housing are the same people who create the revenues and pay the tax-

The whole thing may be even more baffling than listening to spooker on radio.

#### BBC

8.00am Business Breakfast (61648) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (12367) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (9705938) 9.45 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (914087) 10.15 The Vanessa Show (T) (4097862) 11.00 News; Weather (T) (5586342) 11.05 City Hospital (1) (9796071) 11.55 News; Weather (1) (8748254) 12.00 Going for a Song (5580241) 12.25pm Just a Minute (1) (3881218) 12.55 The Weather Show (1) (11366396) 1.00 News; Weather (T) (62844) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (58704648)

1.40 Neighbours (T) (16955445) 2.05 Through the Keyhole (1) (1) (51228071) 2.30 Snooker: World Championship David Vine presents live coverage on the final day of the first round (7210342)

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (8176342) 3.45 Chucklewood Critters (2236280) 4.10 Alvin and the Chipmunks (1080464) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (5543754) 4.35 Goosebumps (7244087) 5.00 Newsround (5103984) 5.10 Mami 7

5.33 Rewind (T) (578613) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (804532) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (209) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (261)

.7.00 Watchdog: On the House New series How the performance of the local school can add £50,000 to a home's value, and the American approach to dealing with flood damage. Plus, the pros and cons of DIY conveyancing and a leature on choosing wooden flooring (T) (4358)

7.30 Austitie's Sporting Bloomers Terry Wogan introduces clips of sporting mishaps and mistakes (r) (T) (297261)



Chelsea's Albert Ferrer in action in the first leg, on April 8 (7.45pm)

7.45 Match of the Day Live Real Majorca v Chelsea (kick-off 8.00pm). Coverage of the Cup Winners Cup semi-final second leg from the Liuis Sitjar stadium in Majorca. Presented by Des Lynam. In the event of extra time and penalties. subsequent programmes are subject to

change (T) (14609984) 10.00 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (619367) 10.35 The Frank Skinner Show Comedy and conversation (T) (840803)

11.05 Question Time From Glasgow (T) (420209)12.05am Barbarosa (1981) A legendary
gunslinger teams up with a naive German
outlaw to escape a bloodthirsty Mexican
clan. Western, starring Wille Nelson.
Directed by Fred Schepisi (1) (1032385)

1.30 Weather (2816859) 1.35 BBC News 24 (86550491)

WALES 10.30-10.35 Party Election Broadcast (197464) 1.30am-1.35 News (2816859)

#### 38C2

7.00am Children'a BBC Breakfast Show: Noddy in Toyland (12385) 7.30 Top Cal (8675613) 7.55 Blue Peter (8003006) 8.20 Dastardly and Muttley (8718377) 8.40 Polke Dot Shorts (3291396) 8.50 Pingu 8.55 Small Stories 9.00 Daylime On Two: Job Bank 9.10 Watch Out (9358716) 9.30 Watch 9.45 Come Outside (7189087) 10.00 Children's BBC: Teletutbies (61087) 10.30 Daytime on Two: Storytime (3737532) 10.45 The Experimenter (9186613) 11.05 Space Ark 11.15 Zig Zag 11.35 Pathways of Beliel (2097396) 11.50 Susanne (2074445) 12.10pm The Geography Programme (7451700) 12.30 Workning Lunch (93272)

1.00 Wishing (38939025) 1.10 The Leisure Hour (1) (1548629) 2.10 The Phil Silvers Show (1) (89610377) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8021629) 2,45 Westminster (T) (5860261)

3.25 News; Weather (T) (5517667) 3.30 Snooker: World Chample First-round coverage (741071)

6.00 Star Treic Deep Space Nine Sisko, Kira and Bashir are stranded (r) (T) (644984) 6.45 Snooker: World Championship Further coverage (T) (144209) 7.30 Making It Profile of metura design student Vivien Maxwell,

Last in the series (1) (777) 8.00 Ray Mears' World of Survival Documentary about the Amazonian tribe, the Sanema (7) (1) (1648)



A celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Mazda MX-5 (8.30pm)

8.30 Top Gear A guide to buying a second-hand car (T) (3483) 9.00 Modern Times Revamp of a run-down estate (f) (T) (652025) 9.50 Snooker: World Champlonship First-round coverage (406209)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (914938) 11.18 Video Nation Shorts (T) (969434)

11.20 CHOICE Arena Salman Rushdie dis-cusses his new novel, The Ground Baneath Her Feet (T) (757990) 11,55 Holiday Weather (853938) 12.00 Despatch Box (67946)

12.30am BBC Learning Zone: Open University. Pacific Studies 1.00 Just in Time? 1.50 Open Late: Social Sciences 2.00 Further Education: Art and Design 4.00 Teaching Film and Media: Film Education — The Holocaust on Film 4.30 Film Education: The Distributor's Tale 5.00 Planet Europe — Making Friends 5.15 Planet Europe — Having a Voice 5.45 Open University, Global Tourism 6.10 Women, Children and Work

MALES: 11.05am Your Assembly (5670735) 11.15-11.15 Daytime On Two (926322) 7.30pm Ray Mears' World of Survival (r) (T) (777) 8.00-8.30 Shop Tafk (1/3) (1648) 11.15 Party Election Broadcast (969434)

5.30am ITV Morning News (80700) 6.00 GMTV (2648648) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3391919) 10.30 This Morning (T) (49908087) 12.15pm HTV News; Weather (T) (7781071) 12.30 ITV News; Weather (T) (2485025) 12.55 Shortland Street (1544803) 1.30 Lie Detector (T) (18851629) 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show T) (5819087) 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (1) (2735342)

3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5516938) 3.15 HTV News (T) (5515209) 3.20 CTV: Malsy (5505822) 3.25 Dewdle (5595445) 3.25 Sylvester and Tweety (5343803) 3.50 Lavender Castle (5364396) 4.05 Hey Arnold! (7822919)

4.30 Children's Ward (984) 5.00 Catchphrase (r) (T) (2990) 5.30 WALES: Crazy Creatures The Welsh Mountain zoo (T) (464)

5.30 WEST: Pleasura Guide (T) (464) 5.58 HTV Weather (655716) 6.00 HTV News (1) (377)

6.25 WALES: Party Election Broadcast By tha Wales Green Party (470290) 8.29 HTV Crimestoppers (470290) 6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (1) (629) 7.00 Emmerdate (1) (2754) 7.30 WALES: The insiders (2/4) (813)

7.30 WEST: Ws Can Work It Out (613) 8.00 The Bill Harker and Beech tackle a violent family. Police drama, with Malthew Crompton and Andrew Paul (1) (6445)



Leo (Sasha Dhawan) and Anita

9.00 The Last Train Jandra lies injured following the collapse of the factory floor, and lan suffers a series of terrifying visions. Part four of the post-apocalypse drama, with Amita Dhiri, James Hazeldine and Janet Dale (4/6) (T) (8209)

10.00 WALES: The Ferret (91813) 10.00 WEST: Tonight with Trevor McDonald Report on a legal drug used in "date rape" attacks (1) (9396)

10.30 WALES: The Sharp End Reaction to the lorthcoming National Assembly electrons 11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (557822)

11.20 HTV News and Weather (1) (353613) . 11.30 WALES: Tonight with Trevor McDonald (1) (54483)

11.30 WEST: A Trip in the Cosmic Buggy A night at the Goldiggers Foam Party (T) (87025) 12.00 Public Morals (1) (54472) 12.30em The Jerry Springer Show (1)

(9944556) 1.15 Trainspotters (6/13) (279762) 2.15 Pop Down the Pub (42255) 2.45 Box Office America (4705410)

3,10 Cybernet (84160410) 3.40 Murder, 5he Wrote (2571859) 4.30 Coach (r) (83532675) 4.50 ITV Nightscreen (3089168)

#### CENTRAL

As HTV West except 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (9909700) 12.55 Lie Detector (T) (2460716) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (4634532) 2.10-2.40 Echo Point (89607803) 3.15-3.20 Central News; Weather (T) (5515209) 5.30 Shortland Street Weather (1) (5515203) 5.30 Shortrand Street (464) 6.00-6.30 Central News at Sbr; Weather (1) (377) 11.20-11.30 Central News; Weather (1) (353613) 11.30-12.35 Wonderful You (7/7) (1) (1) (216803) 1.20am Jenny (8345269) 1.45 Swift Justice (8297946) 2.35 Shark Pod (1) (9555507) 3.30 Cybernet (96656) 4.00 Central Jobfinder '99 (1) (7723656) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (9236014)

#### WESTCOUNTRY.

As HTV West except: 12.15pm Westcountry (7781071) (9097919) Westcountry Lunchtime Live; Weather (1) (2480716) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (4634532) 2.10-2.40 Lie Detector (1) (89607803) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (5515209) 4.59-5.00 Birthday People (3773824) 5.30 Dig it with Den (464) 6.00-6.30 Westcountry Live (1) (377) 11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather (1) (377) (353613) 11.30-12.30 Wonderful You (7/7) (1)

MEDIDIAN AND As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7781071) 5,26 Crimestoppers (6325764) 5,30 Grass Roots (1) (464) 5,00-6,30 Meridian Tonight (1) (377) 7,29-7,30 Meridian Weether (509483) 11,20 Meridian News; Weather (1) (353613) 11,30-12,30 Fitz (1) (54483) 5,00em-5,30 Freescreen (1) (52675)

**一种种主** As HTV West except: 12.14pm Anglia Air Watch (9092464) 12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (7781071) 5.24 Anglia Air Watch (5975223) 5.25 About Anglia (8044826) 5.58 Anglia Weather (T) (655716) 6.00-6.30 Anglia News (I) (377) 11.19 Anglia Air Watch (864880) 11.20 Anglia News and Weather (I) (353613) 11.30 Crime Night (963754) 11.45-12.00 The Ticket (r) (968209)

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Starte 5 55mm S

7.00 The Big Breakfast (69634463) 9.00 Yagolion: History in Action (67961648) 9.20 Geographical Eye (67878984) 9.40 Science in Focus (35433483) 10.00 Middle English (54319342) 10.20 Fourways Farm (55395939) (94319342) 10.20 Fourways Farm (9539999) 10.30 Scientific Eye (39646193) 10.45 Express (39641548) 11.00 The Number Crew (25029819) 11.15 Lisa Looks Back (47253990) 11.25 Schools at Work (92544975) 11.30 Powerhouse (1) (90346377) 12.00 Caroline in the City (1) (1) (63175445) 12.30pm Sesame Street (T) (93993613) 1.00 Planed Plant (1) (69531342) 1.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (82885087) 1.35 FILM: On Moonlight Bay (1) (38744613) 3.20 Collectors' Lot (1) (10542551) 3.50 Fifteen-to-One Gra nd Final (T) (92404280) 4.30 Ricki Lake (T) (99002087) 5.00 Planed Plant (41304700) 5.30 Countdown (T) (99026667) 8.00 Party Election Broadcast (1) (70765071) 6.05 Newyddion 6 (1) (70764342) 6.10 Heno (1) (39331532) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (1) (41497464) 7.30 Deriledied Etholiadol (T) (56525667) 7.35 Newyddion (T) (31967483) 8.05 TI Di Gweld? (T) (84320938) 8.35 Teulu'r Mans (r) (1) (52529803) 9.05 She's Gotta Have ft (2/10) (1) (52529803) 9.05 She's Gotta Have ft (2/10) (1) (57021445) 9.35 Friends (1) (84535551) 10.05 Father Ted (1) (51840803) 10.40 First on Four (1) (1) (61832006) 11.10 The 11 O'Clock Show (65487209) 11.40 The Adam and Joe Show (T) (67077938) 12.10am Dispatches (r) (T) (15916033) 12.40 Prey (T) (32384878) 1.35 Diwedd

#### CHANNEL 4

5.30am The Magic Roundabout (2538667) 5.35 The Pink Panther (2585754) 5.55 Sesame Street (5744087)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (90087) 9.00 Schools: History in Action (9274700) 9.20 Geographical Eye (9367464) 9.40 10.00 Science in Focus (7738280) Middle English (3638648) Fourways Farm (7002938) Scientific Eye (9261358) 10.50 Express (8307071) 11.00 The Number Crew (5666532) 11.10 Lisa Looks Back (6195025) 11.25 Schools at Work

12.00 Sesame Street (T) (94754)

12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (23700) 1.00 Caroline in the City Caroline's elderly neighbour needs help (T) (93174)

1.30 Dead Reckoning (1947) Tense mystery, starring Humphrey Bogert as a former paratrooper who stumbles across murder and intrigue white searching for a missing Army buddy. With Lizabeth Scott and Morris Camovsky, Directed by John Cromwell (T) (32057174)

3.20 Collectors' Lot (1) (5558716) 3.50 Fifteen-to-One Grand Final (T) (1463700)

4.30 Countdown (T) (7281754) 4.55 Ricki Lake (1) (9016087)

5.30 Pet Rescue Presented by Wendy Turner-Webster and Mark Evans (T) (826) 6.00 Friends (r) (T) (919)

6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (241) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (153731) 7.55 New Labour, New Language
Advertising guru Trevor Beattle argues
against the Government's use of focus

groups (4/5) (T) (903445) 8.00 Designs on Your Loo (3/3) (r) (1) (4087) 9.00 First on Four Profile of the outspoken comedian Ruby Wax (r) (T) (3087)

CHORET Disspetches Christopher Hird challenges a family of four from Walsall to cope without their two cars for a week (T) (16464)



Ricky Schroder as Danny Screnson, Sipowicz'a new partner (10pm)

10.00 CHITCE NYPD Blue Sorenson and Sipowicz pick over clues left behind by a double homicide (T) (7938) 11.00 The 11 O'Clock 5how Satingal comedy

11.30 Ally McBeel (r) (T) (52025) 12.30am 4 Later Introduction, Prey (86781) 1.30 Vids Officeat video review (21781) 2.00 Late Toor: The Beautiful Ones

Animation (5388762) 2.05 NYPD Blue (r) (1) (7940946)

Jamott (943061)

3.05 St Elsewhere Featuring members of the cast from Cheers (r) (3260507) 3.55 The Dove (1974) A 16-year-old boy learns about life and love during a round-the-world inp in a small sailing boat. Adventure, with Joseph Bottoms and Deborah Raffin. Directed by Charles

#### CHANNEL 5

8.00am 5 News and Sport(5509209) 7.00 WideWorld Part five. Russell Grant investigates events which will help future generations to understand contemporary lita (r) (T) (2459025)

7.30 Milkshakel (2247483) 7.35 Muppet Bables; 5 News Update (4678396)

8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8458629)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update (8377700) 9.00 The Roseanne Show (r) (T) (5161938) 9.50 Russell Grant's Postcards (T)

(8499071) 9.55 The Bold and the Beautiful Maggie warns off Sheia (T) (8398990)

10.20 Sunset Beach Cartlin begs Cole's lorgiveness (T) (4854551)

11.10 Leeza (3526716) 12.00 5 News at Noon (1) (8451716) 12.30pm Family Affairs Pam has a secret admirer (1) (1): 5 News Update (1938795) 1.00 The Oprah Wintrey Show (1) (4429377) 1.50 McMillan and Wife: No Hearts, No Flowers (TVM 1973) Commissioner's wife Sally comes under tire yet again, this

time tending off the unwanted attentions of a psychopathic sultor. Light-hearted mystery, with Rock Hudson. Directed by Gary Nelson; 5 News Update (28498984)

3.15 Alvarez Kelfy (1986) William Holden
plays a caltie driver who finds himself
caught between the two sides of the
American Civil War, Western, with
Richard Widmark, Directed by Edward
Dmath (50075592)

Dmytryk (60975532) 5.20 5 News (T) (59879025) 5.25 Russell Grant's Postcards Traveller's guide (T); 5 News Update (59878396)

5.30 100 Per Cent (T) (6749280) 6.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's stories, including First on Five (1) (5746193)

8.30 Family Affairs Maria makes an ambarrassing discovery (T), 5 News Update (6737445) 7.00 The Pepsi Chart Texas perform their new single in Our Lifetime (2763629)

7.30 CHOICE Aussie Birda Documentary about the Australian pelican

(T); 5 News Update (6733629) 8.00 The Way Wa Were (1973) Sydney Pollack's acclaimed romantic drama chronicling the romance and maan upper-class novelist (Robert Redford) and a Jewish political activisi (Barbra Streisand) over three turbulent decades. Bradford Dillman, Sally Kirkland, Lois Chiles and Patrick O'Neal also star. Directed by Sydney Pollack (T); 5 News Update (65154342)

10.15 Kickboxer (1989) Jean-Claude Van Damme trains to become the ultimate kickboxer, determined to exact revenge on the champion who paralysed his brother during a martial arts contest. With Dennis Alexio, Directed by Mark DiSalle and David Worth (6556358)

12.05am Red Shoe Diaries A woman plots revenge on her adulterous husband (7182781)

12.40 ice Hockey NHL Presented by Richard Orlord and Todd Macklin (96620502) 4.30 Live and Dangerous (2474174) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6470859)

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#### SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

#### • For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY ONE

7.00am Court Ductuta (43193) 7.30
Godzila (9700) 8.00 Pokamon (24319)
8.30 Holywood Squaras (18890) 9.00 Sally
Jessy Raphael (26087) 10.00 The Oprah
Wintey Show (58894) 11.00 Guilly (48648)
12.00 Jenny Jones (64025) 1.00pm Med
Aboul You (42484) 1.30 Jeopardy (44251)
2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (60254) 3.00
Jenny Jones (78483) 4.00 Guilly! (58990)
5.00 Star Trek. Deep Space Nne; 16629)
6.00 America's Dumbest Commitals (2291)
6.30 Dream Team (2223) 7.00 The
Simpsons (6359) 7.50 The Simpsons
(2025) 8.00 America's Dumbest Commiss
(5006) 8.30 Worlds Wendest IX (1613)
9.00 Friends (54174) 9.30 ER (1503)
10.30 Veronica's Closen (37483) 11.00
Dream Team (65910) 11.30 Star Trek. Deep
Space Nine (21754) 12.30am Law and
Order (19033) 1.30 Long Play (4296217)
SKY BOX OFFICE SKY ONE

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone (1990-80-888) Sky BO's OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) Deconstructing Hamy (1897) Sky BO's OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Mikhright in the Garden of Good and Evil (1997)

9NY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) Titanic (1997) Sky 80x, OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) SKY PREMIER 8.00cm Courage Mountain (1990) (68:61) 8.00 Speec Jam (1996) (28396) 10.00 Kezaam (1996) (54648) 12.00 Mother Knowe Best (1997) 118919) (200pm Courage Mountain (1990) (88629) 4.00 Space Jem (1996) (1903) 8.00 Kazzam (1996) (91193) 8.00 Kazzam (1996) (91193) 8.00 Kazzam (1996) (91193) 8.00 Kazzam (1996) (91193) 8.00 Kazzam (1996) (91196) (1997) (80172667) 10.25 The Gilmmer Man (1996) (784700) 12.00 Slaeping with the Enemy (1990) (270168) 1.40cm Sweet Nothing (1994) (1798) 3.10 When Harry Met Sally (1989) (28482043)

SKY MOVIEMAX 5.15am invesion of Astro Monster (1967) (350)(209) 7.00 Freeze Framo (1982) (34445) 9.00 Married to a Stranger (1997) (80,290) 11.00 Love is

Strenge (1997) (84174) 1.00 Cosmic Shock (1997) (11006) 3.00 Married to a Stranger (1997) (29042) 5.00 Love is Strange (1997) (39042) 5.00 Love is Shock (1997) (58025) 8.00 187 (1997) (1847) 11.00 Elmore Leonerd's Goldcoest (1978) (756532) 12.50am Medusa's Child — Part Two (1997) (1573410) 2.20 A Family Thing (1996) (546410) 4.10 Action Heroes (11021472) 4.40 Freeze Frante (1982) (75843052) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Artists and Models (1955) (7061377) 0.00 Tarzan's Pedi (1951) (8902218) 8.00 The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (1972) (3952713) 16.00 Pocket Money (1972) (343342) 11.40 100 Years, 100 Moves War and Peace (8581483) 12.35am The Laughing Policeman (1973) (7964897) 2.30 Quartet (1981) (1723014) 4.15 The Flying Deuces (1981) 13613256) FILMFOUR

6.00pm And Life Goes On (1992) (73239173) 7.45 Sun's Gonna Shine (8779464) 6.00 Thieven Lite Us (1974) (93287179 10.05 Killer's Kiss (1985) (7086025) 11.20 Tin Men (1987) (9569713) 1.10em The Broad (1979) (9010236) 2.45 Bert (1997) (762085) 4.30 Pensso Globo (42594033) 4.50-8.00

9.00pm The toe Pirates (1994) (3902/445) 11.00 The White Clifts of Dover (1994) (3809005) 1.30am The Venetian Affair (1967) (8216730) 5.15 (ce Pirates (1984) (70855)01| 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

SKY SPORTS 1
7.00am Sports Centre 7.15 Wresting 8.15
you're On Sky Sponts' 8.00 Racing News
9.30 Aerobots 10.00 Rangede 11.30
Australian Rafly 12.00 Aerobots 12.30pm
European Tour Goff Weekly 1.00 Live
European Tour Goff 5.00 Whesting 6.00
Sports Centre 8.30 Footbalf Lague Review
7.00 Futbol Mundial 7.30 What a Weeklend
6.00 Sporns Footbalf 10.00 Sports Centre
10.15 You te On Sky Sports 11.00 Fortbald
Palmer Auch 11.30 Fortbald Three 12.00
Sports Centre 12.15am You're On Sky
Sports' 1.00 Footbal League Review 1.30 Spons: Cerus 12.155m Yours On 1997 Spons: 1.00 Football League Review 1.30 What a Weekend 2.00 Furbo: 12.754, 2.30 Spanish Football 4.30 Trans World Sport 5.30 Sports Centre 5.45 Close

SKY SPORTS 2 SKY SPORTS 2

7.00am Aerobics Oz Syle 7.30 Sports
Centre 7.45 Racting News 8.15
Unbelevable Sports 8.45 Sports Centre
9.00 Fish TV 16.00 Got Born 12.00 World
Pool League 1.00pm Sports Untimited 2.00
X-Zone 2.30 World Pool League 3.30
Fingsde 5.00 What a Weekend 5.30
Footbell League Review 6.00 X-Zone 6.30
What a Weekend 7.00 The Flugby Club 9.00
Trans World Sport 6.00 Formula Three 6.30
Formula Palmer Auch 10.00 US Golf 12.00
The Flugby Club 1.00mm Trans World Sport
6.00 X-Zone 2.30 US Golf 4.30 Sports
Centre 4.45 Close
SKY SEOCHORS 2

**SKY SPORTS 3** 12.00 Wresting 1.00pm Fish TV 2.00 FA Cup Fine Classes 3.30 Australian Raily Championship 4.00 Rugty League World 5.30 Inside the PGA Tour 6.00 Formats Three 6.30 Formats Palme Auti 7.00 European Tour Got 16.00 Bobby Charton's Football Scrapbook 11.30 Close EUROSPORT

7.30am Tra! 9.00 Morosport 9.00 Terms 9.30 Live Terms 5.00pm Live Educations 6.30 Racing Line 7.30 Maria: Art 9.00 Saring 18.00 Football 11.30 Racing Line 12.30am Class UK GOLD

Todam Crossitads 7.30 Neighbours 7.85
EastEnders 8.30 The 52 8.00 The Bit 9.30
The House of End 10.30 Phoda 11.00
Datas 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Bugs 2.00 Datas 2.35
The Bit 3.25 The Bit 3.55 EastEnders 5.00
Dangerfed 6.00 Cynasty 7.00 Some
Mothers Do "Ave Em 7.40 Last of the
Summar Wine 8.20 Dat's Army 9.00 The
Young Ches 8.40 The Young Ones 10.20
Start 11.35 The Sit 12.055m The 88 12.25
Some Mothers Do "Ave Em 2.45 Snopping
with Screenship

GRANADA PLUS 6.00am thish life Luck 7.00 Plus On Plus 7.30 The Cold Counce 8.00 Families 8.30 lifed Your Language 9.00 Classic Commelion Steel 9.30 Emmerdate 19.00 Upstant, Econosians 19.00 Charles Arges 12.00 Classic Commalon Steel 12.30pm Emmerdate 1.00 Mind Your Language 1.30 Me and Mr. Go. 2.00 Lipitans Emmerdate 3.00 The Long Boat Kevin Spacey and John Cusack star in Clint Eastwood's Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil (Sky Box Office 2)

4.00 The Professionals 5.00 Chane's Angels 5.30 Emmerdale 8.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 The Professionals 8.00 The Berray Hill Show 9.00 The Sweeney 10.00 Hale and Page 10.30 The Cornecians 11.00 Men and Motors CARLTON SELECT

5.00pm What's Cooking? 5.30 Gridick 6.00 Animal SOS 6.30 Our House 7.00 Soon 8.00 Sariotown 8.36 An Inspector Cels 9.00 St Elsewhere 10.00 A Difficult Women 11.00 HB Street Blues 12.00 Tales of the Unexpected 12.30-1.00am Gndock DISNEY CHANNEL 6.00em Gumm Bears 6.25 Classe: Toors 6.35 Tale Spn 7.00 Classic toors 7.10 Alactin 7.05 101 Defmatants 8.00 Gool more 8.25 Classe: Toors 8.45 Virine the Foon 9.00 Spc 9.07 Armed Shelf 9.17 Pocket Dregons 8.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 9.35 The Toothbruch Family 10.00 Site Sac 10.12 Rose and Jim 10.30 Big Sarage 10.45 PB and J Our 11.00 Sessand Shelf 12.00 Spc 12.07 pm Animal Shelf 12.17 Pocket Dregons 12.30 Bear in

the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bits Size 1.12 Rose and Jim 1.30 Big Garage 1.45 PB and J Other 2.00 Whose the Poch 2.30 Quadr Pack 3.00 The Little Marmaid 3.30 An Affack 4.08 101 Desimations 4.30 Hercules 5.00 Roses 5.15 Papper Ann 5.30 Smart Guy 6.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FILM: Splesht (1964) 8.45 Honey 1 Smurth the Kole 9.30 Demostars 16.00 Home Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Dr Cover 11.50 Classic Toors 12.00 Close FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo 9.30 Power Rangers Turbo 6.55 Spaderman 7.20 Oggy and the Codsceoles 7.30 Derms and Ghasher 8.00 Hero Turtles The Nea Mazabon 8.25 The incredible Hub 8.50 Iron Man 8.15 Farriasatic Four 9.40 X. Man 10.05 Casper 16.30 Oggy and the Codsceoles 10.35 East Straveganta 11.05 Bootby's World 11.30 Life with Loue 11.55 Home to Sero 12.05 om The Secret Files of the Soy Sem 12.65pm The Secret Files of the Spy Dogs 12.30 Dorkey Kong Country 1.00 Mouga The New Adventures of the Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Venture 1.55 The Incredible

Hull 2.20 Iron Man 2.45 Fanteaux Four 3.10 X-Men 3.30 X-Press 3.35 Spideman 4.00 Goostburngs 4.25 Hero Turties: The Next Mutation 5.00 Dennis and Gresher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Denkey Kong County 6.30 Eel/Stravagerzs 6.55 Oggy and the Cockrosches 7.00 Close NICKELODEON

6.00am Edeeme Ghostbusters 6.30 Bruno Ihe k.d 7.00 CatDog 7.30 Rugrals 8.00 Hey Arnold 8.30 Doug 9.00 Chidren's BBC 19.00 Winzel's House 10.30 Papa Beaver Stones 11.00 The Mags. School Bus 11.30 PB Bear/Annrei Antics/Framiy Ness 12.00 Rugrals 12.30pm Blue's Cutes 1.00 Berones in Pygamas 1.30 Frankin 2.00 Paddington Bear/Lizze's Library/Portland BB/M Mer/hor the Engine 2.30 Chidren's BBC 3.00 Chidren's BBC 3.00 Chidren's BBC 3.00 Chidren's BBC 3.00 Stefanors 8.00 Stefanors 4.30 Rugrals 5.00 Stefanors 1.00 Research 4.30 Rugrals 5.00 Stefanors 8.00 Stefanors 1.00 Rugrals 5.00 Rugrals 5.00 Rugrals 5.00 Stefanors 1.00 Rugrals 5.00 Rugrals 5.00 Stefanors 1.00 Rugrals 5.00 Rugr Angry Beavers 4,30 Rugrals 5,00 Setel Sister 5,30 Kenan and Kei 8,00 Sabrina the Teenage Witch 6,30 Alan Mack 7,00 Close

BRAVO 8.00pm Marital Law 8.00 Cops 9.30 The Late Lourge 18.00 Entreme Championship Wresting 19.30 Enor. Contessions 11.00 FILM: Firepower (1993) 1.00am Enor. Confessions 1.30 The Late Lounge 6.00 Marital Law 3.00 FILM: Beneath the Valley of the Ultra Viziens (1979) 5.00 Eutreme Championship Wresting 5.30 Cops 6.00 Close

#### PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00pm Cueless 7.30 Caroline in the Chy 8.00 Mad About You 8.30 Spin City 8.00 Drop the Deed Donkey 8.30 Winces Line Is h Anyway? 10.00 Fraser 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Semiled 11.30 Spin City 12.00 Lale Night with Devid Letterman 1.00em Garry Shandling's Show 1.30 Nurses 2.00 Almost Perfect 2.30 Tibs and Fibs 3.00 Mont and Mindy 3.30 Abbott and Costello 4.00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Spin-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg Information Television 6.00 Sightings 9.00 Block Rogers in the 25thn Century 10.00 The Six Million Dollar Man 11.00 Dark Shadows 11.20 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 12.00 The Twilght Zone 12.30pm The Twilght Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stones 2.30 Mysteries, Magic and Miracles 3.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Certury 4.00 The

12.00am Hollywood Setan 1.00pm Widd at Heart 1.30 Widd Sanctuaries 2.00 Nature's Babies 3.00 The Mileting of The Leopard Son 4.00 Figer Hurt 5.00 Wid Rescues 6.00 Pel Rescue 7.00 Widdle SOS 7.30 Widdle SOS 8.00 Ammal Cooter 9.00 Emergency Vets 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.30 Emergency Vets 10.30 Emergency Vets 10.30 Emergency Vets 10.30 Emergency Vets 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Incredible Hulf 5.00 Sightings 8.00 Space Preend 7.00 The Sor Million Dollar Man 8.00 PSI Factor Chronicles of the Paranomal 8.00 Babyton 5 10.00 FILMS Evil Dend II. (1987) 11.25 Sin-Focus Spaced 16.00 Twin Peaks 1.00mm FILMS

Special 16.00 Twin Peaks 1.00am FILM: Body Mek (1993) 2.30 The Twilight Zone 3.00 Dark Shadows 4.00 Close

6.00m Smply Parting 8.30 Instant Gardens 7.00 Garden Calendar 7.30 The Restoration Calendar 7.30 The Restoration Calendar 8.00 Australia's Stranges! Home Improvements 6.30 The Close Guide 6.00 The Joy of Parting 9.30 Grassroots 10.00 Instant Gardens 10.30 Antiques Challenge 11.00 Hooked on Fishing with Paul Young 11.25 The Home and Lessure House 11.30 Total Fishing with Matt. Hayes 12.00 These Four Walls 12.30pm Cur House Down Under 1.00 The Furniture Guys 1.30 Grimmes Shelter 2.00 New Yankee Worleshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Villa 3.00 This Old House with Steve and Norm 3.30 Two's Country

Sieve and Norm 3.30 Two's Country

4.00pm Rex Huni Fishing Adventures 4.30
The Diceman 3.00 Rogues' Gallery 6.00
Outback Adventures 6.30 The Super
Predators 7.30 How Did They Build That?
6.00 Medical Detectnes 6.30 Medical
Detectnes 9.00 To kill and kill Again 16.00
The Great Egyptians Ramseo 11.00 The
FBI Files 12.00 Forensix Detectnes
1.00am How Did They Build That? 1.30 The
Diceman 2.00 Cross

DISCOVERY

Diceman 2.00 Close

ANIMAL PLANET

HOME & LEISURE

7.00pm Spunky Monkey 7.30 Guards of Ningaloo 8.30 Beer Attack 9.00 Editeme Earth Landslidel 9.30 Extreme Earth Ice Clemb 10.00 On the Edge Filming Through the Arcic Night 11.00 On the Edge Arcic Journey 12.00 Showecks Liteboar — By Invision City 12.30cm Showecks Liteboar — Not a Cross Word Spoken

#### HISTORY

4.00pm Secrets of War The Invasion of Panama 5.00 untantry 6.00 The Real Robinson Crusce 6.55 Photos for the Future 7.00 Tales of the Gun: M-16

CARLTON FOOD 9,00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Coupr's lutchen College 10.00 Chell for a Day 10.30 So You Think You Can't Cook 11.00 Wortell Thompson Cooks 11.30 Ideal Home Cooks 12.00 Food Network Daily 12.30pm Food Factory 1.00 Coron's Hitchen College 1.30 The Green Gournet 2.00 Retrospectives 2.30 Food Network Daily 3.00 Simply Fish 3.45 More Simply Aniony 4.30 Mindula's Indian Kirchen 6.00 Close

LIVING 5.00am Can'i Cook, Wonii Cook 8.30 Animal Rescue 7.00 Professor Bubble 7.25 Callou 7.30 Polka Doi Shorts 7.40 Johnson Calibu 7.30 Polika Doi Shoris 7.40 Johnson and Firends 7.50 Babaloos 7.55 Practical Parening 6.00 Bamey and Firends 8.25 My Zoo 8.30 Timy and Crew 8.50 Practical Parening 9.00 Special Babies 8.30 Home and Away 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show 10.50 Maury Powich 11.40 Brookside 12.10pm Through the keyhole 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Beyond Belief Fact or Faction 1.40 Maury Powich 2.30 Special Babies 3.00 Living Room 3.50 Michael Coel 4.40 Home and Away 5.10 Through the keyhole 5.40 Carl 1.00k Worl Cook 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rectue 9.00 LA Law 9.00 FLLM: Murder on the Rio Grande (1993)

ZEE TV

S.00am Hasya Te Ita Char Vasya 5.30 Hri Th Hri Har 6.00 Hero Kar Aar Aur Fa? 6.30 Awaz Nayee Andaz Wohl 7.00 Farin Sa Babn 7.30 News 9.00 Karoben Dunya 8.30 Tara 2 8.00 Zanjeeren 9.30 Zee Health Stow 10.00 Urdu Drama 11.00 Pot Luci 11.30 Parampare 12.00 Gujarat Fillah 3.00pm Bangla TV Nohranter Ret 3.30 Pubor Demand 4.00 Filtin Charkar 4.30 Fardead Antarishan 5.30 Teacher 6.00 Fop Time 0.30 Hip Hip Humay 7.00 Gudguder 7.30 Cinemagic 8.00 News 8.30 Chansi Aur Natrat 9.00 Hearaten 9.30 Elure 2 10.00 Paivsian News Link 10.30 -Cone 11.30 Ermaines World of Circlet 12.00 11.30 Emilates World of Corpet 12.00 News 12.30am Zee Business Store 1.00 Bengta TV 1.30 Panyanan 2.00 Hindi Fil.M 4.30 An Hour With



CATCH OF THE SEASON

THURSDAY APRIL 22 1999

Fears about Hungary trip recede

## Keegan set to compromise over selection

By George Caulkin

KEVIN KEEGAN, whose faith in the power of positive thought is the stuff of legend. have grasped the news that England are once more a top-ten side in the Fifa world rankings with all the vigorous enthusiasm with which a shipwrecked sailor would cling to a lifebelt. It will not have escaped the notice of the tem-porary England manager, who names his second interna-

tional squad today, that chop-py waters lie ahead. It is not unusual for a foot-It is not unusual for a tool-ball coach to be subjected to the stinging barbs of criticism, but, in this instance, Keegan's hide will need to be thicker than most, Whoever he chooses for the match away to Hungary next Wednesday, whichever clubs are required to lose their players, a chorus of disap-proval will doubtless be heard. The euphoric response to England's 3-1 victory over Poland last month must already seem

a fond, fading memory.

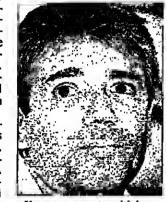
Though it is hardly Keegan's fault — the match was arranged by Glenn Hoddle. his predecessor — this is a fix-ture that satisfies nobody. A clutch of FA Carling Premiership managers have voiced their concern at such insensitive timing for a meaningless game while, with England due to play in Budapest at a venue only 200 miles from the Serbian border, security has become a salient issue.

The Football Association was at pains to give forthright reassurance on the latter point last night, having yielded to Government advice on the matter of safety. It is now rea-sonable to assume that unless the situation in Kosovo deteriorates grievously, the match will proceed as planned.
"When we have an obliga-

tion to play an international game, we don't welsh on our obligations lightly." David Davies, the FA's executive we pulled out of games in the past, we didn't do so without a lot of soul-searching first.
"In this case, we have been

in regular contact with the Foreign Office and their advice is that there is no reason not to travel to Hung-ary. We feel that we have an obligation to the fans, both those who are travelling from England as well as the Hungarian supporters who have bought tickets."

From Keegan, however, a series of explanations will still be required. Though he has expressed his sympathy for the Wenger,



Keegan: expects criticism

George Graham and Ruud Gullit, all of whom have stated their dissatisfaction at the prospect of losing their most influential players at a crucial stage of the season, he has little option other than to select the best at his disposal, even if there are championship. Euro-pean and relegation issues still io be decided.

A form of compromise is nonetheless likely. "The squad is a matter for Kevin," Davies said. "I know he's been talking to various managers and I'm sure there will be some give and take." Players nursing in-juries or strains will not be director, said. "Indeed, when opportunity to promote from

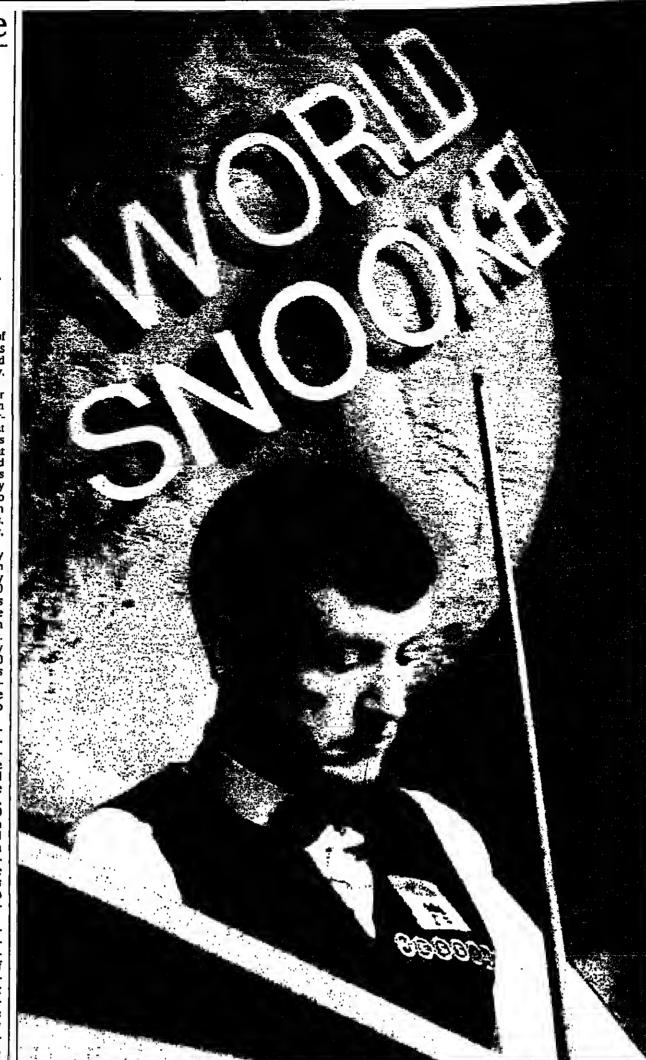
within. Regular mainstays of the under-21 team, such as Frank Lampard, Richard Wright and Emile Heskey, can expect advancement.

A source of apprehension or not, the journey to eastern Europe will at least be undertaken in the knowledge that Keegan's appointment has already had a significant effect. England have improved their position in the rankings by one place, to tenth. They are the only home nation to rise. Scotland and Northern Ireland are down two places. to 28th and 69th respectively, and Wales are 82nd.

All in all, it was a busy day at Lancaster Gate. Gordon Strachan, the Coventry City manager, was fined £1,000 plus costs and censured for his part in the touchline mêlée that marred his team's match away to Chelsea in January. Noel Whelan, the Coventry striker, must also pay £750 and costs, although it was decided by a disciplinary commission that Jim Blyth, the goalkeeping coach, had no case to answer.
The Stamford Bridge contin-

gent did not escape unpun-ished for their part in the con-frontation. Mark Nicholls, the midfield player, was fined £750 while Aaron Lincoln, the kit manager, and Terry Byrne. the masseur, must pay £200 and £250 respectively. Whefan was also fined £1,000 and given a one-game suspension after receiving his eleventh yel-low card. Olivier Dacourt, the Everton midfield player, was fined £2,500 and warned as to his future conduct after amassing 14 yellow cards.

Mark Bosnich, the Aston Vil-la goalkeeper, has denied reports that he will join Man-chester United at the end of the season. The Australia international, 27, is out of contract this summer, but has dis-SUPPE might command a weekly wage of £50,000 at Old Trafford. "I would have to be Pelé, Maradona and Ronaldo rolled into one to deserve that money." he said.

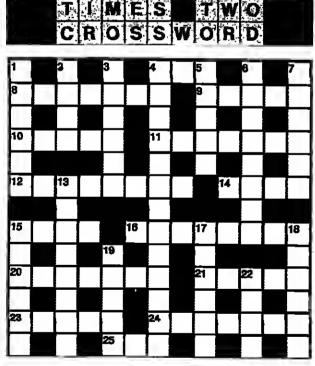


Black mood: Steve Davis, the six-time champion, slumps in disbelief as a magnificent comeback in the first round of the Embassy world championship is thwarfed on the last black yesterday. Report: page 50. Photograph: John Giles

## The voice of cricket joins The Times

The best-known name in cricket journalism is joining The Times. Christopher Martin-Jenkins becomes chief cricket correspondent on May 1, in time to lead our coverage of the World Cup. Martin-Jenkins, who was voted the sports reporter of 1996, Joins from The Daily Telegraph, where he was the cricket correspondent for eight years.

He was previously cricket correspond of the BBC and he remains a member o the Test Match Special team. His books include The of Test Cricketers and The Wisden Book of **County Cricket. An** extract from his latest, An Australian Summer, will appear in The Times next



No 1698

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## Relegation battlers will have only themselves to blame

RARELY will luck or destiny have played such a supporting role in the scramble to escape relegation. The fixture computer has conjured up so many "six-pointers" that whichever teams have fallen out of the FA Carling Premiership by May 16, they will have little else to blame but themselves.

indeed, the only predictable scenario in the closing acts of the final season of the millennium is that Nottingham Forest will spend the beginning of the 21st century in the Nationwide League first division. For ten days now, they have finished their own matches only to await news from other

Three times, the news has been good, but it is inconceivable that the stays of execution can continue. The end could come on Saturday, if either Blackburn Rovers or Charlton Athletic are victorious.

Even with Forest gone, however, the competition becomes more intense. Logically, it appears that the remaining two relegation places could be filled by five other teams. Charlton Athletic, who drifted helplessly into the bottom three after the 4-1 defeat by Tottenham Hotspur on Tuesday night, are looking vulnerable.

Yet Alan Curbishley, their manager, is wise to the shifting sands of the Premiership. "Everybody though! Everton were dead and buried a couple of weeks ago." Curbishley said. "But suddenly they win two on the spin and now, supposedly, they're safe, it can change quickly for us, too."

Charlton could wish for no better chance of extricating themselves from the mess than in the next two matches.

By Stephen Wood

They meet Everton, who still only have 37 points, at Goodison Park on Saturday, while the next weekend, Blackburn visit The Valley.

What an occasion that promises to be. The two sides are separated today by just one goal and, although Blackburn have a game in hand, it is against Manchester United. Brian Kidd, the Blackburn manager, has tried to appear as aloof as possible recently. "There's no talk of relegation," he said. "We'll just carry on doing our best and hopefully we'll be here next season."

Kidd is not exactly burying his head in the sand, but his

managerial inexperience has given rise to rather more scepticism than may have been expected at Ewood Park, Nevertheless, if they beat Charlton and take maximum points from their home encounter against Forest, scepticism

could give way to optimism. In addition, the club was yesterday lifted by news of Stephane Henchoz, the defender. Rumours suggested that he was out for the season with a groin injury, but the player has indicated that he will soldier on.

The signals being emitted from Everton yesterday were rather mixed. Olivier Dacourt,



Dominguez's goal for Tottenham was in part responsible for sending Charlton back into the relegation zone

the midfield player, was told by a Football Association disciplinary hearing that he must pay a fine of £2,500 for amassing 14 bookings this season. However, he was not given another suspension, as was originally feared. Counterbalancing that was the publication of the club's pre-season matches for the summer. Pessimism is rife, it seems, for Everton will face the Nationwide League talents of Rotherham United, Manchester City and Tran-

mere Rovers in July. Six points from their latest two games have transformed Everton, but if things take another turn for the worse, their final match of the campaign. against Southampton at The Dell, should be an entertaining experience.

Whatever Everton's fate by then, Southampton, who lie second from bottom today, are likely to have to beat them to stay up. That is unless they can reap maximum rewards from the next three games, against Derby County, Leicester City and Wimbledon. Perhaps then, the last of the five teams in danger. Coventry City, will be back in the mire. That is dependent on their fortunes in the next three games - against Leicester City, Wimbledon and Derby.

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